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OPINION METER

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Should the Legislature override the governor's veto of the Fiscal Year 2009 budget?

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INSIDE



School Rampage

A 17-year-old wielding a Beretta 9 mm pistol burst into classrooms at his former high school and gunned down students.

WORLD...Page 24



New iPod

Apple Inc. unveiled a minuscule new iPod Shuffle that takes its "smaller is better" mantra to a whole new level.

TECHNOLOGY...Page 26

Star Dims

More than a month after the assault on Rihanna, the situation gets more grim for the once-brilliant career of Chris Brown.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 27

Work on \$2.8M emergency center project delayed. **PAGE 2**
CDA revisits lending policy for distressed borrowers. **PAGE 13**

Four major Guam groups call for federalization delay

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Four major business and tourism groups

in Guam have called for a 180-day delay in the start of transition to federal immigration system in the CNMI and to include Chinese and Russian tourists in

the Guam-CNMI visa waiver program, until additional security measures are put in place.

By June 1, CNMI immigration will be

under federal control unless the start of the transition period is delayed.

Chinese and Russian tourists will be
See FOUR on Page 4

FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET IMPACT

Inos: Govt could shut down

If no austerity measures are put in place

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

The local government could shut down as early as July if no austerity measures are passed by the Legislature, Finance Secretary Eloy Inos said yesterday.

See INOS on Page 4



Fitial



Inos

"Our bank account will run dry by August. Maybe by July, we'll be gone."

—Finance Secretary Eloy Inos

FEDERALIZATION LAWSUIT

Another wants to be involved

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

A lawyer for a local resident has filed a brief seeking to join the federalization lawsuit.

In the brief filed by e-mail Wednesday to U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia judge Paul L. Friedman, lawyer Bruce L. Jorgensen said CNMI

See ANOTHER on Page 4



CAPITAL HILL MASCOT

A tree trunk "dressed" in time for St. Patrick's Day never fails to amuse motorists passing the road to and from Capital Hill. St. Patrick's Day is an annual feast day that celebrates one of Ireland's patron saints and is generally celebrated on March 17. The tree trunk is always "dressed" for the occasion, including as Santa Claus on Christmas, or a graduate during graduation days.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

DPW poised to award \$5.57M for 7 projects

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Over \$5.57 million worth of contracts for seven long awaited projects that include a \$2.788

million road construction on Rota will soon be awarded by the Department of Public Works, citing the need to prioritize road safety—with or without the economic crisis.

Also included is the Marpi public cemetery whose \$1 million contract was supposed to be awarded to GPPC Inc. when the project was put out for bids over

See DPW on Page 4



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Local

Work on \$2.8M emergency center project delayed

Due to change orders, bad weather

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The contractor for the \$2.8 million construction of the CNMI Emergency Operations Center on Capital Hill is asking for a five-month extension to complete the project due to change orders and delays caused by last year's weather, Saipan Tribune learned yesterday.

Once completed, the project will provide a state-of-the-art command and control center to

better equip the CNMI to address both man-made and natural disasters.

The project was originally targeted to be completed tomorrow, March 14. But a visit to the project site yesterday showed only about 50 percent of construction is completed.

Mark Pangelinan, deputy director of the Emergency Management Office, said the project was initiated in 2003 when the Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded some \$4 million in com-

petitive grant for it. EMO owns the Emergency Operation Center.

"The construction contract was awarded to GPPC Inc.; it's about \$2.8 million, but they're asking for an extension to complete it," Pangelinan said.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers serves as project engineers, while the designer is Group 70 International.

"We told the Army Corps to minimize change orders as much as possible," Pangelinan said, adding that delays and



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Construction workers rush to finish the \$2.8 million CNMI Emergency Operations Center on Capital Hill.

change orders usually mean additional project costs.

Dennis Tupaz, GPPC's engineer-in-charge at the project site, said the five-month request for extension is due to change orders, some of which are still under negotiation, as well as the rainy weather last year.

"We're about 50 percent com-

plete with the project. The most expensive part of it is the electrical and mechanical wiring inside," he said, adding that there are "some additional costs" as a result of change orders.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Emergency Operations Center was held on April 11, 2008.

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Kilili brings drinking water woes to House panel

WASHINGTON, D.C.—CNMI Delegate Gregorio “Kilili” C. Sablan testified Wednesday before the House Budget Committee about the lack of safe drinking water in the Northern Marianas and to ask for funding in the Fiscal Year 2010 budget to pay for needed infrastructure.

Sablan joined 32 of his colleagues in the House to take advantage of Members’ Day on March 11 (EST) to describe the water problems in the Commonwealth.

“This is the first time in history that a member of the Northern Mariana Islands, since entering the United States Commonwealth in 1978, have a representative in Congress to speak

on their behalf before this committee and for this I am grateful, humbled and very privileged,” Congressman Sablan said.

But Sablan said he also felt the great responsibility, as the single voice of the Marianas in Congress to raise awareness about the “great gulf in the standard of living” between his constituents in the Northern Mariana Islands and Americans in the rest of the United States.

“For such a simple thing as turning on the kitchen faucet and having water flow out, anytime of the day or night; water you can put in a glass and drink now, without having a

second thought. This is the type of experience that the people I represent mostly do not have,” he said.

Sablan asked the committee to help support the Northern Mariana Islands financially in securing safe drinking water.

At present, a large majority of Northern Mariana residents have to buy their drinking water.

Sablan also called attention to “the other side of the equation”:

wastewater.

“On the island of Saipan is a homestead development of about 700 homes. Because there is no sewer system in that

part of the island, each of those homes collects its wastewater in a private septic tank, which slowly leach into the land. The problem is that these 700 septic tanks sit over one of the best aquifers on our little island, furthering endangering the limited water supply and putting human health at risk,” he said.

Sablan provided the committee with a list of projects on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, which he said the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will vouch for as needed and shovel-ready.

“What is today an infrastructure problem for us, could very soon, in the very near future become a health epidemic for the entire island...My solution is simple. I am asking

the committee to accept the list of water and sewer projects that EPA has compiled... and provide the budgetary authority sufficient to permit Department of Interior to meet this need,” Sablan said.

The Committee also heard from Rep. Betsy Markey (D-

CO), who asked for assistance for farmers in Colorado; from Rep. Philip Hare (D-IL), seeking public transportation funds for his state; request for more money to be spent on science and technology by Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ), and Vernon Ehlers (R-Mich). (PR)



Sablan

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DPW

From Page 1

five years ago.

Public Works Secretary Diego B. Songsong said yesterday that DPW would also soon start soliciting bids for the multi-million Cross Island or Back Road improvement project that would create a new highway from San Vicente to Capital Hill on Saipan.

"We haven't seen much highway projects for the past years. We are now concentrating on moving these projects which have been on the planning [stage] for so many years, including the Cross Island project," Songsong told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

He said many of the roads on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan are in bad condition and therefore pose dangers to the public.

"We are concerned with the safety of motorists and pedestrians. Hopefully, by us constructing safer roads, we will

drastically reduce if not eliminate accidents on the road," he added.

DPW recently awarded a \$148,155.97 contract to RPM Construction for the construction of a Lau-lau pathway (phase 1) in Kagman. A notice to proceed was set for March 10.

The project, which is expected to be completed in 120 calendar days, involves the construction of a concrete pathway and the installation of pavement markings and signs.

Contracts under processing

Songsong said seven projects are currently under contract processing, the biggest of which is Rota's Route 11 or the Sabana Road and drainage improvement, fully funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration.

GPPC Inc., which bagged the construction contract worth \$2,788,800, has 270 working days to complete the project once DPW signs the contract

and issues the notice to proceed.

The project involves the construction of approximately 5,280 linear feet by 24 feet wide roadway, and is 12 feet lane on each direction.

Songsong said this project is in addition to the ongoing Route 101 construction on Rota "which will soon be completed." The construction cost is \$988,800, he added.

DPW is also now processing a \$1,385,000 contract for Maeda Pacific Corp. for the construction and improvement of Route 201 on Tinian. The bids were opened on Feb. 6.

"This project is also funded by DOT's Federal Highway Administration, and Maeda has 240 working days to complete the project after notice to proceed is given," said Songsong.

Tinian has an ongoing road project on Route 202 worth \$1.38 million, and Songsong said this is expected to be completed this summer.

Also under process is a \$52,224 con-

tract to Misamis Construction for the construction of pavilions at the Chalan Kanoa Beach Park on Saipan. This project is funded by the local government.

Songsong said Pacific Cooperation Ltd. will soon be awarded a \$30,000 contract for the pavement markings in Precinct III-Chalan Monsignor Guerrero and Chalan Pale Arnold intersection on Saipan.

The locally funded project, which is expected to be completed in just 30 calendar days from the issuance of a notice to proceed, consists of applying pavement markings within the vicinity.

Another contract under process is a \$17,488 contract that will go to Resources Management International Corp. for the repair and renovation of the Pakpak Beach Park pavilions on Saipan. The locally funded project will take 60 days to complete.

The DPW secretary said they will also soon award an over \$300,000 contract to DK Brothers for the Anyuta Is-

land Revetment project, near the west harbor on Rota.

Songsong said the Marpi public cemetery has long been stalled due to funding problems, among other things.

"The bid came out in 2002-2003, and the contract was supposed to go to GPPC Inc. Because so many years passed since then and the escalation of prices, GPPC gave us a revised cost for the project. Right now we are reviewing that to see whether it's reasonable," he said.

He said the Marpi cemetery project is a priority, given that the Mount Carmel public cemetery is now almost filled to capacity.

Project announcements

DPW is currently advertising for the Commonwealth Health Center perimeter fencing project funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the supply, delivery and installation of additional lighting for the Capital Hill Baseball Field, which is locally funded.

ANOTHER

From Page 1

resident Celina Tilipao Mettao Setefano questions the validity of the group CNMI Descents for Self-Governance and Indigenous Rights. The group has joined the CNMI in suing the U.S. government to halt the implementation of federal immigration laws to the CNMI.

The first hearing on the matter was scheduled for yesterday morning Washington D.C. time (yesterday evening CNMI time).

Despite the CNMI Descent's argument that federalization violates the right to self-government as stipulated by the Covenant agreement between

the Commonwealth and the United States, Setefano maintains that many locals and non-locals support Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008.

"[P]ersons of NMI descent and of non-NMI descent, including both U.S. and non-U.S. citizens, resoundingly support, laud, and are collectively relieved by, the recently enacted federal statutory provisions by which the U.S. government has finally come to the aid of the CNMI general populace," according to the brief.

Benefits for few

Setefano, when reached by telephone yesterday, said the local government is focused on helping other people, not

CNMI residents.

"[They are] taking care of other people, rather than the island people, the islanders," she said.

When asked why she supports federalization, Setefano alluded to benefits granted to a select few.

"They live in a very nice place, hotel, motel, very nice houses, paid for by Housing. They don't want to go out there and work. And then they expect the local people to find a job and it's very hard to find a job nowadays," she said, adding that she knows people who pay \$100 per month for housing.

"And they don't do anything. They just sit around, and us locals ask for help and they tell us to find a job," she said.

In the brief, Jorgensen wrote that Setefano and the general public did not learn until Saturday that the CNMI Descent group was granted the right to participate in the lawsuit.

Friedman granted the group the right to participate in the lawsuit, but denied its request to present oral arguments at the hearing.

Speculation

Setefano also questions the group's numbers.

"Ms. Setefano, like many others, questions the validity of the recent contention by which DSGIR purports to include 'approximately 4,100 persons' as members, as well as the methodology—if any beyond mere specula-

tion—upon which this 4,100 number was ascertained, and the motivations underlying DSGIR conception/participation here," the brief stated.

Setefano called Honolulu-based lawyer Jorgensen to represent her. Jorgensen noted that as a former resident of the Commonwealth he has many years of experience with issues relating to the CNMI. He served as law clerk from 1989 to 2001 for Alex R. Munson of the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, and subsequently practiced law in the U.S. Court on Saipan and in other Pacific Rim locations.

Because Jorgensen will be in Delaware on unrelated business during the hearing, Setefano has asked him to appear on behalf of her, the brief stated.

INOS

From Page 1

Inos, in a press conference with Gov. Benigno Fitial, said the new \$156.76 million Fiscal Year 2009 budget passed on Wednesday by the Legislature will force the government to shut down or lay off employees if cost-cutting measures are not enacted immediately.

"Our bank account will run dry by August. Maybe by July, we'll be gone," Inos said.

On Wednesday, the budget, which includes \$148 million from local resources, became law after the House of Representatives overrode Fitial's veto.

The government is on track to overspend by \$4.5 million again for a sec-

ond quarter, which will total \$18 million in over expenditures by the end of the year, Inos said.

The new budget allows for the employee contribution rate to decrease from 18 percent to 11 percent, estimated to save \$4 million, the Finance secretary said. But that means the government will still be overspending by \$14 million.

With the government spending \$4 to \$5 million each two-week pay period, it's easy to see that at the current rate the last three pay periods could go unpaid, Inos said.

"We can just go as we go, and when we're up to \$148 [million] that's it. We'll shut the valve," he said, adding that that is why austerity measures are critical.

The administration proposed a bill

introduced in the House of Representatives last month that would set austerity Fridays and unpaid holidays. Two of the set dates have already passed and one more is coming up next week.

"Every pay period we do not act, the amount of cost [reduction] will diminish," Inos said. "Remember, we can't go back and elect not to pay a holiday that has already been paid."

Both Fitial and Inos said they would not allow for deficit spending. And, Inos added, deficit spending for payroll costs isn't possible.

Unlike contractual obligations that can be paid in the future, the government must make payments every two weeks.

"It's hard cash every two weeks," he said. "If you can't pump out the cash, what kind of deficit is there? You got

bounced checks all over the place."

Fitial said the administration has begun looking at reducing personnel, but the number of people currently employed by the government must first be calculated. They are working with the mayors to determine that now, he said.

The new budget allows for more than 4,000 full time employees. When asked for an estimate of how many employees could be laid off, Inos said he did not want to calculate numbers.

"I'd really hate to go that route. To go through the exercise to do that because it will be a very painful exercise and the consequence is going to be very detrimental," he said. "I was hoping I would not need to go through that route, but with the situation the way it is, that should be the start of the plan-

ning process."

When pressed, Inos agreed the number is "probably" in the thousands.

Civil service employees cannot be terminated.

The Legislature put the administration in a very difficult situation, Fitial said.

"And the reason why it is going to be very difficult is because the Legislature chose to not work together with the administration, and this thing has got to stop because we are working for the people."

It's all political, he said, adding that because he is running for re-election, members of the Legislature did not think he would make touch decisions.

"That's wrong because I'm committed to do what is right," he said.

FOUR

From Page 1

required to secure a U.S. visa for entry into the CNMI and Guam by June 1.

In separate filings, the Guam Chamber of Commerce, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Guam, the Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association, and the Guam Visitors Bureau expressed support to the CNMI government's request for a delay.

David B. Tydingco, chairman of the board of the Guam Visitors Bureau, and GVB general manager Gerald S.A. Perez said the bureau "strongly supports the Marianas Visitors Authority's recommendation to delay the start of the transition period for 180 days, and until the installation of the additional layered security measures are in place."

Tydingco and Perez said this delay in the transition period will prevent an

immediate and catastrophic blow to the CNMI's economy, and allow time for U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the CNMI to secure the resources needed to establish an electronic visa processing infrastructure.

The delay, they said, will also give ample time for DHS to stand up additional personnel and administrative support to carry out its expanded responsibilities, and provide adequate time to clarify, put in place and disseminate specific details associated with enhanced security requirements.

"GVB shares CNMI concerns that the rules significantly understate the potential economic loss from a reduction in Chinese and Russian visitors," Tydingco and Perez said.

GVB and the three other groups are among the 35 entities that have so far submitted formal comments to DHS' interim final rule establishing U.S. ports of entry in the CNMI and imple-

menting the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

March 17 is the deadline for filing comments.

Guam chamber

"We support seeking out the China visitor market and join the Guam Visitors Bureau and the Marianas Visitors Bureau in requesting a delay in the start of the transition period until the required additional measures are in place and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has completed the work necessary to add China and Russia to the visa waiver program," Guam Chamber of Commerce board chair Frank J. Campillo and president Reina A. Leddy wrote DHS.

Because Guam is the closest U.S. destination to China, just four to five hours by commercial jet, the Guam Chamber of Commerce officials said the country may be a viable second leg

for Guam's tourism economy, which is currently dominated by Japanese visitors comprising 80 percent of the market.

It also said that tourism and leisure travel can be an integral part of the United States' expanding peaceful engagement with China.

"But the regulatory framework to facilitate this engagement starts with a more balanced and realistic policy that safeguards our security while promoting self-sufficiency in our small insular economies," the Guam Chamber of Commerce added.

Chinese chamber

George Lai, president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Guam, said "to protect the best interest of all citizens of Guam and the CNMI," the start of federalization in the CNMI must be delayed "until the full completion of additional required security measures

are firmly in place."

The delay, it added, would also give DHS time to complete work necessary to add China to the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

"At this time of profound economic challenges which Guam and the CNMI face, a careful consideration of the economic benefits through the diversification of tourism market must be a high priority," said Lai.

Guam hotels

Jeffrey Schweizer, chairman of the board of the Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association, and GHRA president Mary P. Torre, said "at a minimum, the GHRA recommends the delay of the start of the transition period for 180 days as allowed under section 702(b) of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act and the immediate installation of the additional layered security measures required."

Friends of sex assault victim's family seek help

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Friends of the family of a female minor who was sexually assaulted in Dandan over the weekend asked villagers yesterday for help in the immediate resolution of the case.

Dandan residents found type-written messages in their yards and the front of their homes yesterday, purportedly from friends of the victim's family. The message sought for information that may lead to the capture of the perpetrator whom they said also sneaked inside the house and stole laptops and other items.

A resident interviewed by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday disclosed that they found the message in their garage around 3pm.

Neighbors said that they too found the same letter in their yards.

Saipan Tribune contacted yesterday the number listed on the message and the one who answered confirmed circulating the message, saying that friends of the victim's family wants to offer their help. He declined to

be identified.

In the same message, villagers were informed that the incident happened between 12am to 6am on March 7. It offered a \$2,000 cash reward for those who could identify the perpetrator/s leading to his or their arrest.

Yesterday, Dandan Elementary School principal Jonas Barcinas said he was shocked upon learning the news and immediately told his teachers to account for their students. He confirmed that the victim was not among the students of DES.

Barcinas reminded students about the importance of being safe in school, at home, and in the community.

Department of Public Safety public information officer Lei Ogumuro yesterday declined to further comment on the case, citing the ongoing investigation by police.

Police reported the incident Wednesday, saying a female minor was sexually assaulted in Dandan on March 7. The female juvenile was treated at the Commonwealth hospital. Police are now looking for the suspect/s.

CPA eyes \$7 million from stimulus package

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Efrain Camacho disclosed that NMI airports are eyeing \$7 million from the stimulus fund approved by the U.S. President for economic and investment recoveries of all states.

A non-competitive grant, the \$7 million is the amount promised to the agency by federal officials who recently visited the islands and checked the upcoming airport projects.

"CNMI airports are going to get \$7 million from that stimulus money and the amount was based on statistics used by the federal in determining the need

of each airport," said Camacho.

He said CPA submitted a stimulus distribution plan where it prioritized the rehabilitation of the runway of the Saipan/Francisco C. Ada International Airport.

"The runway rehabilitation is a ready-to-do project and we intend to use the stimulus package on this primary undertaking to avert future damage and impact," he said.

Estimate cost for the entire rehab project is \$20 million.

Camacho said the additional funding for the \$7 million stimulus money will come from airport improvement project grants that provide annual assistance to CPA projects.

He said bidding for the re-

habilitation project is set in June while construction is slated for August.

"We're expecting the full rehab work to be finished in less than two years, which was also set as a condition of the stimulus package," Camacho said, adding that the project was bid out together with the relocation of the water catchments and the temporary conversion of the taxiway to a runway.

These components, he added, are included in the estimated \$20-million project to be funded by stimulus fund and the AIP grants for 2009.

Camacho said that also up for completion this year are two other priority projects of CPA. These include the procurement

of a third backup generator and the upgrade of the 15-year-old public address system on Saipan airport.

It was disclosed that the cost of a third generator, and other components of the project, will cost \$6.8 million to be funded by AIP grants.

Camacho also said that CPA has received the approval of FAA to fix the public address system as well as utility upgrade and renovation works at both the international and commuter terminal buildings.

The project will cost \$4 million, according to Camacho.

"Hopefully, we can see a new PAS within the year," he said, adding that construction is slated for four months.

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'Amending HQT rules faces uphill battle'

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Amending the requirements for highly qualified teachers faces an uphill battle as any grandfathering on the standards will mean a dual system for public schools in the CNMI, according to Board of Education vice chair Herman T. Guerrero.

Changes in the requirements were sought by the Association of Commonwealth Teachers, which criticized the benchmarks as higher than the standards set in many U.S. states, based on its research.

Guerrero, also chairman of the board's fiscal and personnel affairs committee, is firm in his view that lowering the standards will also result in lowering the academic progress PSS desires for its students.

He said that based on SAT-10 results, there seems to be a correlation between non-HQT percentage versus high performance of kids.

"Results show that students who have teachers more knowledgeable on content areas, or have passed the rigorous test, are learning better and performing better academically," he said.

Guerrero said the board has required PSS management to submit yearly progress reports based on SAT-10 results to es-

ablish findings.

There are over 500 teachers in PSS, of which 66 percent are highly qualified. HQT means teachers have obtained a degree, have valid teaching certificates, and have passed both Praxis 1 and 2.

The CNMI, as mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, is required to have all its classrooms manned by HQT personnel by 2011, which is the reason why BOE set its three basic requirements, tied to the teacher's compensation plan as approved in 2006.

Guerrero said his committee is awaiting the recommendations of PSS if there's a need to favor the ACT proposal.

"If we're telling the kids to pursue excellence, why are they asking us to lower the standards or requirements set for teachers to become more effective in the class?" he asked.

The vice chairman said the proposal would also mean discouraging professionalism in the field of education.

Saipan Tribune learned that once a non-HQ teacher passes Praxis and the other requirements to become certified, their contracts are amended to reflect a new salary scale at the certification level.

ACT is recommending that PSS lower the passing score for Praxis 2, provide additional time

for non-English native teachers, and consider alternative measure for non-HQT veteran teachers. The association also requested the reinstatement of salaries of teachers who are yet to complete the requirements.

Last year, PSS renewed the one-year teaching contract of over 130 non-HQT personnel in the classrooms with the condition they show efforts in passing the tests during the one-year contract period.

In order not to compound the teacher shortage problem and the anticipated impact of federalization, Guerrero yesterday said these contracts would likely be renewed.

"If principals are pursuing these [non-HQT] teachers, the commissioner will look into it for the board's approval. The board set the standards not to penalize or get rid of the teachers but we're asking schools and management how we can retain these teachers and bring them to a competitive level," Guerrero said.

He admitted that a non-HQT status may affect the ability of CNMI schools to use some federal funds, which restricts its use to highly qualified personnel.

Even some portions of the stimulus economic fund eyed for CNMI education, Guerrero said, are restricted to highly qualified employees.

Legal Notice

If You Purchased or Paid for Paxil CR® between April 1, 2002 and March 4, 2005, You Could Get a Payment From a Class Action Settlement.

There is a Proposed Settlement in a class action lawsuit. The case is called *Simonet v. SmithKline Beecham Corp.*, No. 06-1230. The case is pending in the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

This Notice is a summary only. For complete information, you should read the Detailed Notice. You can get a copy of the Detailed Notice by visiting the website or calling the toll-free number listed below.

What Is The Class Action Lawsuit About?

The lawsuit involves the drug Paxil CR®. Paxil CR® is manufactured and marketed by the defendant GlaxoSmithKline, also known as SmithKline Beecham, ("GSK").

The lawsuit claims that Paxil CR® tablets contained a manufacturing defect that caused some of the tablets to split apart. GSK denies all of these claims and any liability.

Who Is Involved?

The Consumer Class includes all persons in the United States and its territories who purchased or paid for (in whole or in part) Paxil CR® between April 1, 2002 and March 4, 2005. There is a separate class for insurance companies and other entities that reimbursed for Paxil CR®.

What Are The Terms Of The Settlement?

If the Proposed Settlement is approved, GSK will pay a total Settlement Amount of up to \$28 million to settle the claims in the lawsuit. Some of this money will be paid to insurance companies and other entities that made reimbursements for Paxil CR® tablets. Some of this money will be paid to consumers who purchased or paid for Paxil CR®. More information on the Settlement payment breakdown is available in the Detailed Notice.

Consumer Class members' recovery will be based on the number of Paxil CR® you paid for or purchased, up to \$150.

Attorneys' fees, expenses, payments to Class Representatives and the costs of providing notice and

administering the Proposed Settlement will also be paid from the Settlement Accounts.

What Are My Legal Rights?

- **Remain in the Lawsuit by Doing Nothing.** You will be bound by any decision in the lawsuit and you will give up your right to sue GSK in the future for the claims in this lawsuit. You may:
- **Submit a Claim for Reimbursement.** If you wish to receive payment, you must submit a Claim Form postmarked by **August 10, 2009**.
- **Object to the Proposed Settlement.** If you or your attorney wish to object or comment on the Proposed Settlement, you must send a written objection postmarked by **July 1, 2009**.
- **Exclude Yourself from the Class.** If you do not want to remain in the Class, you must exclude yourself. If you exclude yourself, you retain the right to file your own lawsuit against GSK at your own expense. You will not be bound by any decision in this lawsuit, and you will not be eligible to receive monetary reimbursement. Your written request for exclusion must be postmarked by **May 15, 2009**.

Who Represents Me?

The Court has appointed the law firms Strange & Carpenter and Salas & Co., L.C. to represent the proposed Class. Class Counsel will request that the Court award attorneys' fees and expenses in an amount not to exceed 33-1/3% of the total Settlement Amount. You may hire your own attorney if you wish. However, you will be responsible for your attorney's fees and expenses.

When Will The Court Consider The Proposed Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on **July 10, 2009** at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 5 to consider whether the Proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and the motion for attorneys' fees and expenses. If comments or objections have been received, the Court will consider them at this time.

For More Information and a Copy of the Detailed Notice and Claim Form,

Visit: www.SimonetPaxilCRSettlement.com Call: 1-866-458-3186

Email: info@SimonetPaxilCRSettlement.com

Or Write: Simonet Paxil CR® Settlement Administrator

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Interesting March offerings from Grand Hotel



Sumptuous fish tacos.

MARK RABAGO

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Saipan Grand Hotel is positioning itself to be the place where everyone can dine, relax and unwind, and have fun all under one roof. Food and beverage assistant manager Fernando "Ding" Ureta said the Susupe landmark has lined up a bevy of exciting promotions this month of March.



Doors open at 6pm Monday to Saturday and U.S. beers (Budweiser, Miller, and MGD) cost only \$3 a pop.

Summertime@Club V

With summer in full swing, Grand Hotel will kick off its Summertime@Club V promotion tonight.

With entertainment provided by DJ Jeyrock and the Art East, it's Summertime@Club V is a monthlong festival where



The Authentic Chamorro and Mexican Cuisine Lunch Buffet has become so popular that loyal customers have requested that Mexican fare also be included in Aoi Restaurant's Dinner Teppan buffet in the evenings.

MARK RABAGO

partygoers are encouraged to come to the disco in their best beach attire and swimwear.

Ureta said partygoers with the most striking and sexy bikinis, tank tops, board shorts, sarongs,

and tapis will win a boatload of prizes.

For more information about Grand Hotel's exciting promotions for March, call 234-6601 or 235-6616.



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Seafood Friday

With Lent just a few weeks away, Ureta said Aoi Restaurant has added a twist to its immensely popular Authentic Chamorro and Mexican Cuisine Lunch Buffet by introducing Seafood Friday.

He said chef Danny Dela Cruz would be preparing dishes such as seafood enchilada, fish tacos, seafood paella, fish escabeche, and seafood marinara.

It is Ureta's hope that Seafood Friday will attract the Catholic faithful who shun meat every Friday at the onset of the Lenten Season.

The lunch buffet has become so popular that loyal customers have requested that Mexican fare be included in Aoi Restaurant's Dinner Teppan buffet in the evenings.

Aoi Restaurant's lunch buffet is available Monday through Saturday from 11am to 2pm.

Whimsy Sunday Brunch

Children are also pretty well served at Grand Hotel with its Whimsy Sunday Brunch. For a mere \$5.99 kids of all shapes and sizes can partake of all-time favorites like hotdog, fried chicken, and spaghetti.

What's more, children who take advantage of the Whimsy Sunday Brunch promotion can also avail themselves of free games in the arcade center.

Unwind at Southern Cross

Tired from work's daily grind, then head on to Southern Cross Bar.

Ureta said aside from the free-flowing drinks available at the bar, the venue also has a super-wide projector screen and karaoke machine, and a billiards table sure to help you relax and unwind.

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Kilili co-sponsors bill to help disabled veterans

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Northern Mariana Islands Delegate to Congress, Gregorio “Kilili” Camacho Sablan, announced yesterday that he has signed on as original co-sponsor of the “Disabled Veterans’ Health Care Fairness Act of 2010,” a bill to assist catastrophically disabled veterans with medical costs and pain management.

“These men and women already face great difficulties as a result of incapacitating injuries they sustained while serving their country,” Sablan said. “It is poor repayment to put them under financial strain just to get treated. Our veterans deserve more. They are the backbone of what keeps us safe, and it is important to care for them.”

Reintroduced in the 111th Congress by Rep. Deborah

Halvorson (D-IL), the bill, H.R. 1335, will prohibit the Department of Veterans Affairs from charging catastrophically disabled veterans for medical services the department provides. The legislation will also mandate the creation of up to seven consolidated patient accounting centers to track the VA’s finances.

In addition, the bill will direct the VA Secretary to form and carry out a pain management program for veterans under VA medical care, as well as abolish a requirement for written, informed consent for human immunodeficiency virus testing.

The current regulations state that if a veteran is receiving care unrelated to their service, he or she can obtain counseling services for family members on the condition that it is necessary

for the veteran’s discharge from a hospital. The “Disabled Veter-

ans’ Health Care Fairness Act” will end this requirement. (PR)

EDA gives NMI Commerce \$110K grant

The U.S. Commerce Department’s Economic Development Administration announced yesterday a \$110,000 grant to the CNMI Department of Commerce on Saipan, to help prepare a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that will guide the Commonwealth’s economic development efforts.

“The Economic Development Administration is pleased to partner with the CNMI to boost business development and job growth,” said Sandra R. Walters, EDA Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer. “This EDA grant will assist the Commonwealth in at-

tracting private investments that will result in industrial diversity and job growth.”

EDA supports the economic development needs of distressed communities throughout the United States. Its mission is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness and preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

Additional information on how EDA investments are helping distressed communities create a positive and sustainable economic future can be accessed at <http://www.eda.gov>. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS’ HEADLINES

March 13, 2000

Young backs fight vs federal takeover

The Commonwealth’s fight against federal takeover drew fresh support from Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska) who has renewed calls against several legislative proposals that would strip the CNMI control over immigration and minimum wage. Mr. Young, chair of the powerful House Resources Committee, has told colleagues in Congress to weigh an independent study by the U.S. General Accounting Office which detailed the potential economic disaster that may be caused by changes in the ability of the CNMI to tap foreign labor. “Several legislative proposals exist that would do just that, and I am opposed to them,” said the congressman in a speech before the U.S. House of Representatives last week.

Only 10 investment certificates approved since 1997

Economic downturn in Asia and restrictive local investment policy requiring investors to put up a \$100,000 security deposit continue to chase foreign businessmen away from the Northern Marianas. Only 10 new foreign investments have been given the foreign investment certificates and visas to do business on Saipan since February 1997, according to the Economic Development Division of the commerce department. The new foreign investments pumped in some \$1.75 million in fresh capital to the CNMI economy, and an additional \$1 million from the required \$100,000 cash security deposit per foreign investor.

March 13, 2001

Disaster emergency on Rota

Rota will be placed under local disaster emergency after the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation went on with its scheduled power disconnection of government offices yesterday due to unsettled bills. Citing imminent threat to public health, safety and welfare, Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona urged CUC officials to restore the electricity supply of local government agencies essential to community services. Mr. Manglona also called on Administration officials, legislators and the CUC to sit down and thresh out the problem, particularly funding sources to settle utility debts incurred for Cycle four and five.

Gov’t to pay \$800K each month to keep lights on

The Department of Finance and the Commonwealth Utilities Commission yesterday hammered out a deal guaranteeing the continued supply of electricity to government offices on Saipan. However, the agreement proved too late for government offices in Rota and Tinian as the utility company made true its threat to cut electric service to public establishments in the two municipalities. According to Finance Secretary Lucy Nielsen, the government will pay the CUC a minimum flat-rate of \$800,000 a month for the continued consumption of electricity by Commonwealth offices. “CUC wants a commitment from the government to be able to pay at least \$800,000 a month. They want a commitment from us and we will be able to do that,” Ms. Lucy Nielsen indicated.

March 13, 2002

Customs collection slides to \$3.9M

In a manner that has become depressingly predictable of late, the Customs collection last month fell by 4.15 percent, from \$4.14 million in January to \$3.97 million in February. Based on figures provided by the CNMI Division of Customs, the biggest drop in revenue was in airport collections, which fell by a whopping 51 percent, from \$234,500 in January to just \$114,490 in February. Customs Director Jose Mafnas said this is probably reflective of the drop in visitor arrivals to the Commonwealth and could bounce back once the tourism industry revives. He added, though, that the drop could also be attributed to the fact that February this year had only 28 days, which means short of three days when compared to months that have 31 days.

Asylum meeting draws hundreds of applicants

More than a hundred aliens trooped to the American Memorial Park early last night amid occasional rain to listen to asylum opportunities from human-rights lawyer Bruce Lee Jorgensen-a meeting that was attended by personalities that included local and federal government officials. Among those who attended the meeting were Office of Insular Affairs representative Jeff Schorr, Assistant Attorney General Andrew Clayton and former Senate legal counsel Steve Woodruff. Unlike Sunday’s gathering, there was no scramble for asylum application forms among the aliens, who were mostly Chinese and Bangladeshi, and many of them were seen by the Saipan Tribune carrying their respective copies.

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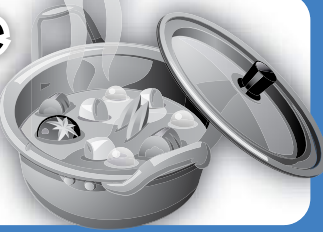
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Some friends

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton continues to devalue and undermine the U.S. diplomatic tradition of human rights advocacy. On her first foreign trip, to Asia, she was dismissive about raising human rights concerns with China's communist government, saying "those issues can't interfere" with economic, security or environmental matters. In last week's visit to the Middle East and Europe, she undercut the State Department's own reporting regarding two problematic American allies: Egypt and Turkey.

According to State's latest report on Egypt, issued Feb. 25, "the government's respect for human rights remained poor" during 2008 "and serious abuses continued in many areas." It cited torture by security forces and a decline in freedom of the press, association and religion. Ms. Clinton was asked about those conclusions during an interview she gave to the al-Arabiya satellite network in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. Her reply contained no expression of concern about the deteriorating situation. "We issue these reports on every country," she said. "We hope that it will be taken in the spirit in which it is offered, that we all have room for improvement."

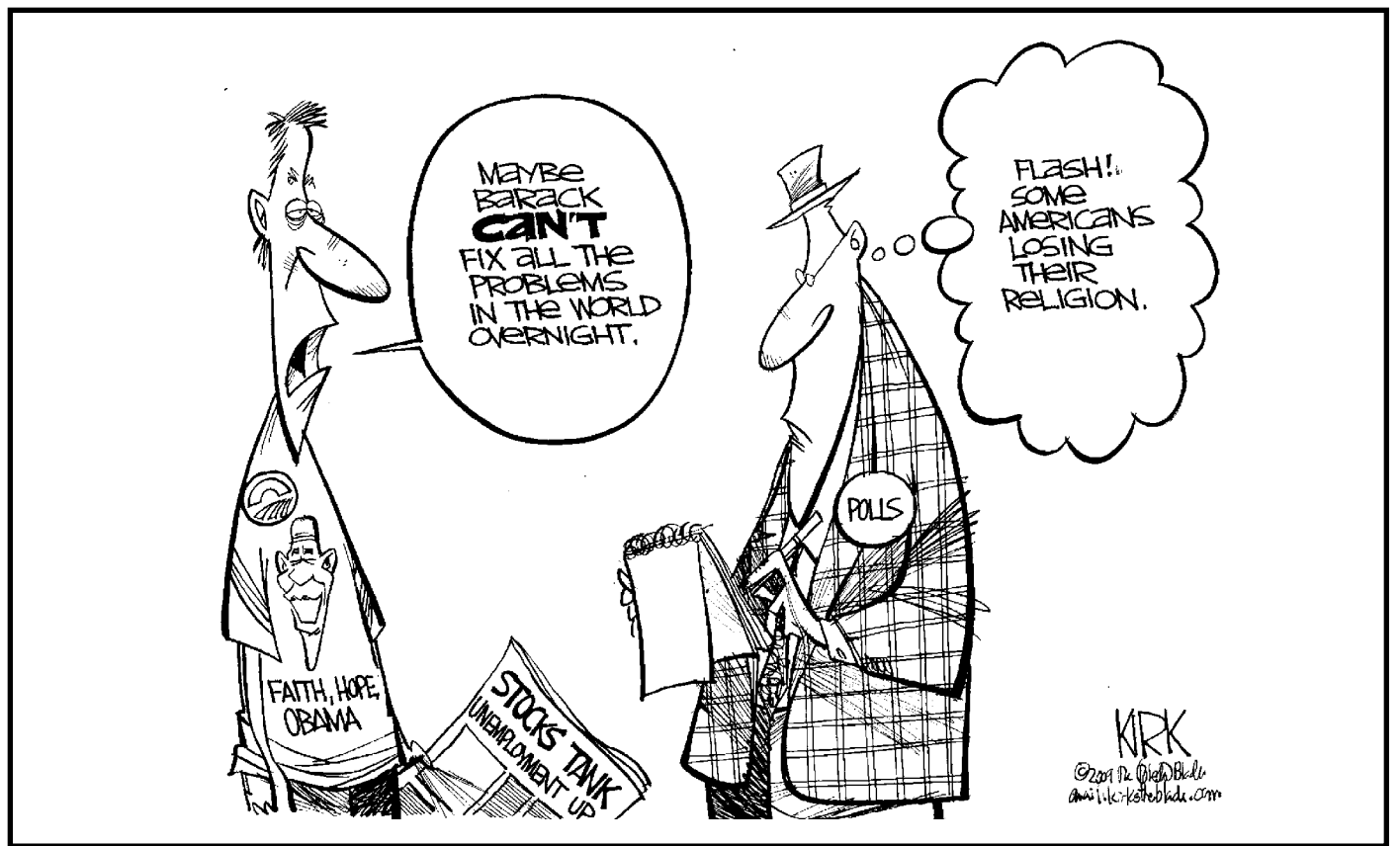
Ms. Clinton was then asked whether there would be any connection between the report and a prospective invitation to President Hosni Mubarak to visit Washington. "It is not in any way connected," she replied, adding: "I really consider President and Mrs. Mubarak to be friends of my family. So I hope to see him often here in Egypt and in the United States." Ms. Clinton's words will be treasured by al-Qaida recruiters and anti-American propagandists throughout the Middle East. She appears oblivious to how offensive such statements are to the millions of Egyptians who loathe Mr. Mubarak's oppressive government and blame the United States for propping it up.

The new secretary of state delivered a similar shock in Turkey to liberal supporters of press freedom, now under siege by the government of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. According to the State Department report, "senior government officials, including Prime Minister Erdogan, made statements during the year strongly criticizing the press and media business figures, particularly following the publishing of reports on alleged corruption ... connected to the ruling party." That was an understatement: In fact, Mr. Erdogan's government has mounted an ugly campaign against one of Turkey's largest media conglomerates, presenting it with a \$500 million tax bill in a maneuver that has been compared to Russia's treatment of independent media.

Ms. Clinton was asked by a Turkish journalist what she told Mr. Erdogan when he complained about the State Department report. She answered: "Well, my reaction was that we put out this report every year, and I fully understand ... no politician ever likes the press criticizing them." "Overall," she concluded, "we think that Turkey has made tremendous progress in freedom of speech and freedom of religion and human rights, and we're proud of that."

In fact, as the State Department has documented, Turkey is retreating on freedom of speech. In Egypt, the human rights situation also is getting worse rather than better. By minimizing those facts, Ms. Clinton is doing a disservice to her own department—and sending a message to rulers around the world that their abuses won't be taken seriously by this U.S. administration.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post



In Iran, a Hall of Mirrors

By STEVE INSKEEP
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

MASHAD, Iran—I spent the early weeks of the Obama administration looking into one of the new president's most imposing challenges: Iran. Traveling across that country, I tried to learn what matters most to its people at this moment. And some of the most insightful words I heard came from a guard at Iran's holiest shrine.

Imam Reza, one of the most revered figures in Shiite Islam, is buried in Mashad, a city in far northeastern Iran, near the plains of Central Asia. Pilgrims approach his shrine along streets lined with tourist shops selling prayer rugs, sandals and jars of saffron.

The faithful have come here for centuries to pray in a series of outdoor courtyards, each surrounded by walls of gold leaf and blue mosaic tile. Non-Muslims like me are asked to enter through a single gate, and I had to visit so many checkpoints before finding the correct one that my Iranian interpreter joked to a guard, "Security here is tighter than at the nuclear facility at Isfahan!"

"This shrine," the guard replied, "is more important than the nuclear facility at Isfahan."

By then I had been in the country for nearly two weeks, talking with real estate agents, presidential candidates, window shoppers in bazaars, and it struck me that the guard may have been right.

In the West, we fixate on Iran's enrichment of nuclear fuel, which symbolizes national prestige as well as real power. But the shrine of Imam Reza represents something more, something perhaps deeper: Iran's dominant religious tradition, its glorious history, its widespread cultural influence and, not incidentally, cash. It's a major tourist destination. It's located in the hometown of Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. And like the rest of the country, it is preparing for a presidential election.

In this city of 2.5 million, I could visualize what analysts inside and outside the country had been telling me. Understanding Iran requires that Americans confront all the complexities of Iranian life, not just the hot-button issues that concern Washington most directly.

My guide told me that 12 million pilgrims make the trip to the shrine each year, and I hadn't been in town very long before I was chatting with a visitor from Saudi Arabia. Steady streams of people flowed through the checkpoints even on a freezing Friday afternoon, when the mountains outside town glistened with snow.

As it has elsewhere in Iran, inflation has eaten away at Mashad's natural prosperity. On a side street near the shrine, I met a retired banker named Ali who owned a small tourist hotel. Over tea in his

spotless lobby, he noted that local wages were rising, but that the prices of home appliances, such as refrigerators, had jumped "40 or 50 percent."

Such economic concerns will be at issue in the upcoming election. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad faces challengers including Mohammad Khatami, a former president known for his attempts to reach out to the West. The sitting president is campaigning defiantly for a second term. In fact, when we arrived in Mashad, we discovered that the president was also in town, having flown in that day to give a speech. Widely disdained in the capital, Ahmadinejad has spent much of his four-year term traveling to the outlying provinces, where he says ordinary Iranians support his policies and his combative rhetoric about Israel and the West.

The winner in June will of course affect Iran's future direction, but he won't have the final say on Iran's foreign policy. That distinction belongs to the man from Mashad: Khamenei.

Iran's Supreme Leader grew up near the shrine of the Imam Reza, on a twisting alley where his father owned a four-room house. It's still there, its bare rooms and simple kitchen utensils largely preserved as they were when the family last lived there. Schoolchildren are bused in to see it. Old men who remember Iran's 1979 revolution visit the tiny rooms to pray. One told me that Khamenei was arrested in that house during the last days of the U.S.-backed Shah of Iran's regime.

Today, Khamenei's bearded face gazes out from billboards and murals nationwide. In the

words of one diplomat in Tehran, the old revolutionary leader remains "one of the hardliners," deeply conservative and not inclined to think that Iran particularly needs to engage with the West.

But the president has an opportunity to influence his course, according to Hooman Majd, an Iranian-American writer with connections to a number of Iranian leaders. "The Supreme Leader is very careful not to go so far against the president's wishes that it becomes too obvious that it's not a democratic system," Majd says. "He has to at least maintain, if nothing else, a semblance that it's a democracy." And though democracy is restricted, even Ahmadinejad has recently found it politic to signal his willingness to talk to the United States.

That doesn't necessarily mean that any Iranian leader would agree to American demands, whether on terrorism or nuclear enrichment. Like the United States, Iran has a sharply defined sense of its own interests. Iranians rarely forget that their nation has been a political and cultural power for thousands of years. And that power was on spectacular display at the shrine of Imam Reza.

The faithful have been expanding the complex for nearly 1,200

See IN IRAN on Next Page



THE WASHINGTON POST

The shrine of Imam Reza is Iran's holiest shrine. Imam Reza, one of the most revered figures in Shiite Islam, is buried in Mashad, a city in far northeastern Iran, near the plains of Central Asia. The faithful have come here for centuries to pray in a series of outdoor courtyards, each surrounded by walls of gold leaf and blue mosaic tile.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Romeo void

No matter how bad your financial lot is on Saipan, you can still enjoy sunsets and warm breezes. Don't worry, I haven't punted economics for kum-bay-yah platitudes. But as un-sentimental as I am, even I will note that are no guarantees that spending money on more "luxurious" stuff will make you any happier than a quiet session with your toes in the sand.

I'm not saying that money can't buy happiness. It usually can. But buying power, like any other power, is a two-edged sword. Best be careful with it.

Thus begins a tale that is an appropriate antidote (and anecdote) for these lean times. It didn't happen on Saipan; I heard it during a stretch of time in purgatory, which fairly describes much of the outside world.

Anyway, here's the start of the story: "My boyfriend got me a diamond ring," a college student told me. Since she didn't build her sentences around the words "like," "you know," or "oh my God," I was willing to listen to her narrative.

The ending isn't happy.

But back to the start. Her beau, who I surmise is, like her, a 19-year old (or so) college kid, surprised her with the diamond ring (not, incidentally, an engagement ring). This was quite the dramatic gesture.

A few days later, after the giddiness of the grand gesture was wearing off, and, presumably, after bragging rights to every other college girl within cruise-missile range were duly exercised, somebody noticed that the diamond had developed black spots in it.

Oops.

Don't ask me how this happens. My interest in diamonds is zero. Maybe the flaw was there before and they didn't see it. Or maybe there's some way for a dealer to mask a flaw long enough to make a sale. Or maybe little spots of carbon congeal seemingly spontaneously after a Flying Spaghetti Monster waves a noodly appendage over the periodic table of the elements during a low-orbit drive-by of earth. I don't know.

But this much I understand: The crappy diamond turned a big gesture into an even bigger disappointment. That's the problem with grand gestures: When they backfire, the goodwill they were contrived to create turns negative.

I'll follow that strategic observation with a tactical chalk talk. After all, the guys reading this column are already starting to think tactically at this point. Advanced practitioners of the romantic arts would advise our young Romeo to take his losses and put the whole thing behind them, perhaps tossing the evidence discretely if the opportunity presented itself.

Other men, less savvy tactically, but not wanting to yield to a total financial loss, might suggest that Romeo have a little discussion with the jeweler in hopes of finding some sort of remedy.

But no male worth his Y-chromosome would dare suggest that this mook should take his girlfriend WITH him to the jewelers to "make everything all right."

So you can guess what happened next.

By ED STEPHENS

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and Saipan-Blog.com.



We can just imagine the jeweler rubbing his hands with glee when he saw that pair of doe-eyed innocents entering his lair. And we can be mighty sure that the mook would be put in a position to either plead guilty to buying a crappy ring, thus being convicted of Felony Cheapskate, or he could cough up more money and buy a "better" ring, thus buying his way out of that jam.

Out came the wallet. Hey, no suspense on that note, folks, you saw that coming.

But what we'll never see is that ring. She wasn't wearing it. The ring merely memorializes the entire, unhappy fiasco. I got the impression that she never wants to see it again.

And, perhaps, she doesn't want to see her Romeo anymore either. "I have doubts now," she said. "Furthermore, I feel like I'm being trapped by a gift, and I don't like that feeling."

The moral of the story? Stick with sunsets.

Why I want a 180-day delay

On Feb. 10, I sent a letter to Janet Napolitano, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, asking for a 180-day delay in the extension of federal immigration law to the Northern Mariana Islands. Public Law 110-229 gives Secretary Napolitano the sole discretion to authorize a 180-day delay. I want to take this opportunity to explain the reasons for requesting this delay.

First, a delay will allow time to get appropriations for FY 2010. The Department of Homeland Security estimates the total resources required to establish border controls in the Northern Marianas to be \$97 million over the next two years. Congress has made no appropriations for this purpose as yet. DHS has said that it can do a "quick and dirty" stand up. However, such a plan may not meet the congressional intent of effective border control. Furthermore,

the points of entry created in this way would lack the technological capacity necessary to allow for tourists from China and Russia to continue to be included in the Northern Marianas' tourist economy. And, more than that, I believe the people of the NMI deserve better than a "quick and dirty" job.

Second, while PL 110-229 leaves key aspects of federalization to DHS to specify through regulations, nine months after enactment DHS has only published one set of regulations. The lack of certainty is already having a negative effect on our economy, and on our society, as employers, employees, and families try to react to the yet-nonexistent regulations that will affect them. Some say just move ahead with federalization on June 1, but I believe that the uncertainty created by this lack of regulations undermines the statutory requirement for an "orderly" phasing in of federal immigra-

Letters to the Editor

Intoxication: A sad story

Here's an example. After being away from our beautiful island of Rota for more than six years, I was very disappointed by the dim-witted example displayed to me in the presence of my off-island *manhoben* visitors by three individuals, one of whom is a Rota casino commissioner and the other a DYS representative, at Aquarius Bar & Grill the morning of March 8, 2009, which prompted me to write this letter.

I blame the casino commissioner and the DYS representative for this third person's actions (who was a passenger in the commissioner's vehicle), in allowing him, rooting for him, and provoking him to shout demeaning words that were uncalled for. As a casino commissioner of Rota and DYS rep, I would have thought that you are both good role models and respectful citizens. What a mistake to even think that! If you're both gentlemen with class that morning, you could have advised him not to act like a juvenile delinquent or you could've driven your vehicle away, so I would not have heard the profanity your passenger said: "*Yanggen taya 'nobian miyo pues fan litira hamyo puet hagu nai dikiki yan ginen Amerika!*" and more I could not mention, which definitely referred to me since I'm the only one who recently came back to visit. Just what was your interpretation of this man's statements that you chose to keep open your window and laugh at what had been said to me? Watching you both chuckling your faces off was a total shock. You both demonstrated the lowest form of character. I believe you do not deserve my respect.

I thought after being away a couple of years that this type of old school behavior is long lost but to the contrary it is still being practiced. Although I'm saddened by the incident, I was glad that it is only being practiced by old farts. This old-school behavior of bullying must stop! Is this the type of atmosphere you want to display to investors, visitors, and our young community of Rota?

What happened at the Aquarius Bar & Grill was witnessed by my friends and off-island visitors. I suggest that you exercise caution when out in public, particularly when you are intoxicated, because it brings out the worst in you. Did you even remember that I went to your table to *mangingi* to both of you? I know our group was having a blast at the bar but we never bothered the elderly's table. It was at the closing of the

bar when this nasty act occurred for no apparent reason.

Oooh! I know what triggered your juvenile act! I think you were all bothered that the bar ladies paid more attention to our *manhoben* table than yours. But what can I say, that's how we do it!

Garren Manglona Quitugua
Rota

Missing the point

To Franklin Keiper: Your letter on Monday, March 9, 2009, "Thanks to 'kaboom,'" may have missed the point of the writer of "Andersen's take on federalization."

The letter implies that over the last 60 years, America has been using kaboom diplomacy to bomb rogue countries until it secures total submission and that the dire consequence of kaboom diplomacy is the emergence of suicide bombers among Muslim countries who have organized against the West. Read the past histories of war against rogue countries. The point is the federal government's intrusion into one's sovereign right, resulting in the lawsuit against federalization. The CNMI rights under Covenant agreement is not under the federal policy of "don't watch what we do; listen to what we tell you to do."

Since you claim that the good brothers in the Muslim countries did not organize recently against the West, then what was 9/11 to you? Was it accomplished for the purpose of securing 72 virgins per terrorist? If that's the case, then this will put a serious demand on the virgin production capacities of paradise.

There is no such term as "their Bible, the Koran." The Bible belongs to Christians and Koran belongs to Muslims. If Muslims were told in the mid-1500s to go out and kill infidels, aren't the infidels today the west?

The Muslims on Saipan never tasted freedom until they arrived here and they are constantly in the media expressing their own opinions. Imagine if I was in their country, exercising the same right. I'd be hung just like Saddam.

Don't ask or force anyone to kneel down in submission to give thanks.

Wence T. Aquino
Chalan Kiya, Saipan

By GREGORIO 'KILILI' C. SABLAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan is the Northern Mariana Islands Delegate to the U.S. Congress.



tion law and the statutory requirement that federalization not unduly harm our economy.

Finally, the delay will provide needed time to identify any groups not considered by PL 110-229 and find administrative and statutory solutions to the problems caused by this lack of consideration. For example, the Department of Homeland Security has stated that some IRs of our families will be eligible to live and work in the NMI under their NMI-issued permits—but will not be able to leave and then re-enter the NMI without a separate Department of State-issued visa. And yet these two agencies have yet to work together to make sure these visas are available. Circumstances of life in the CNMI mean sometimes leaving the islands—for medical emergencies, for example. It would be bad for the economy and bad for our families if mechanisms are not in place to allow for someone needing medical care in Manila to return to their families and their jobs in the NMI. We need time to work with agencies to ensure these mechanisms are in place before federalization begins.

I believe Secretary Napolitano should grant the 180-day delay for the largely political reasons I've discussed above. But immigration is not just a political issue for me. It is personal. Immigration is about our island community—neighbors, friends, and family.

Congress stated in PL 110-229 that federalization would be "orderly" and would not unduly harm our economy. I believe that to be a statutory promise to our island community. To me the strongest reason for a 180-day delay is to make sure this promise to our island community is fulfilled.

IN IRAN

From Page 10

years. Once inside, I walked through archways from one courtyard to the next, past thousands of red carpets laid out for prayer.

Non-Muslims are forbidden to enter the shrine's indoor chambers, but at one of the entrances, a crowd of eager pilgrims nearly swept me into a vast vaulted room. From the doorway, I saw that every inch of the walls and ceiling is covered with tiny mirrored tiles. A Westerner might feel that he has stepped into the world's largest disco ball, although my shrine guide said that many pilgrims feel as though they have arrived in heaven.






I will simply say that the mirrored tiles are like Iran itself. They are beautiful and intricate, and you could spend half a lifetime chasing each reflection.

Inskeep is a co-host of NPR's Morning Edition. His e-mail: sinskeep@npr.org.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

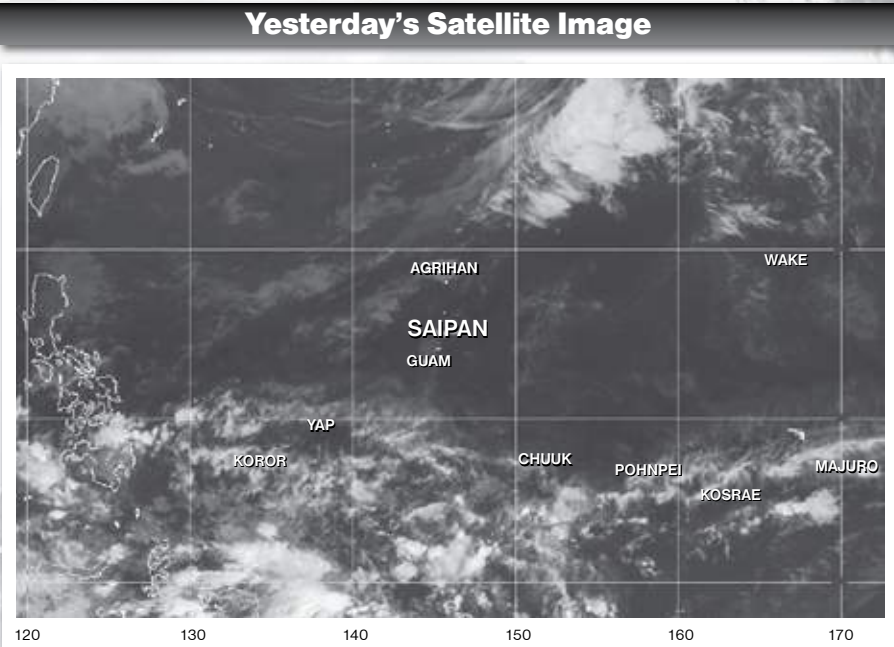
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲86° ▼76° | ▲85° ▼77° | ▲85° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼77° |

| Micronesia | | |
|---------------|---------|---------|
| Guam and Rota | Sunny | ▲84 ▼75 |
| Palau | Rain | ▲84 ▼78 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲86 ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲88 ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Sunny | ▲86 ▼74 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲87 ▼77 |
| Majuro | Rain | ▲80 ▼78 |

| Around The Globe | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------|
| Auckland | Mostly Cloudy | ▲67 ▼53 |
| Beijing | Mostly Sunny | ▲37 ▼23 |
| Hong Kong | Cloudy | ▲68 ▼57 |
| Honolulu | Showers | ▲73 ▼62 |
| London | Partly Sunny | ▲59 ▼45 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲68 ▼50 |
| Manila | Sunny | ▲91 ▼75 |
| Melbourne | Thundershowers | ▲81 ▼65 |
| Miami | Partly Sunny | ▲82 ▼68 |
| New York | Cloudy | ▲43 ▼33 |
| Osaka | Rain | ▲53 ▼40 |
| Paris | Partly Sunny | ▲59 ▼44 |
| Pusan | Cloudy | ▲54 ▼35 |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny | ▲57 ▼44 |
| Salem | Cloudy | ▲55 ▼40 |
| San Francisco | Mostly Sunny | ▲61 ▼47 |
| Seoul | Mostly Cloudy | ▲41 ▼28 |
| Tokyo | Rain | ▲57 ▼43 |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Cloudy | ▲45 ▼35 |

| Tides | | |
|---------------|------------|----------|
| Saipan Harbor | | |
| 3:07 AM Today | Low Tide: | 0.4 Feet |
| 8:56 AM Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 3:36 PM Today | Low Tide: | 0.2 Feet |
| 9:39 PM Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends from 25N156E southwestward to 20N140E then continues westward beyond 130E at 20N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring along and up to 150 miles northwest of the cold front. A near-equatorial trough south of Koror extends from 2N130E to 2N134E to the equator at 145E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found south of the trough axis. Strong low-level convergence southeast of Yap and Koror is triggering numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms within 200 miles of a line from 6N132E to 4N140E to EQ149E. An upper-level trough runs southwestward from 14N167E to near Pohnpei at 7N140E to the equator at 158E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found south of Pohnpei and Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 5N154E to 2N166E. Scattered trade-wind showers are found between 6N and 9N from 168E to 175E. This area includes Majuro. Also within 50 miles of a line from 2N173E to 3N180.

| Sunrise/Sunset | | | Moonrise/Moonset | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|------------------|----------|----------|
| Today | 6:26 AM | 6:27 PM | Today | 8:23 PM | 7:31 AM |
| Saturday | 6:26 AM | 6:27 PM | Saturday | 9:16 PM | 8:12 AM |
| Sunday | 6:25 AM | 6:27 PM | Sunday | 10:11 PM | 8:55 AM |
| Monday | 6:24 AM | 6:27 PM | Monday | 11:05 PM | 9:40 AM |
| Tuesday | 6:24 AM | 6:27 PM | Tuesday | 11:58 PM | 10:27 AM |

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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| FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 12, 2009 | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|--|
| DEPARTURES | | | ARRIVALS | |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | |
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 12:25pm | 1,7 | |
| Saipan-Guam | | | | |
| CO9317 | 5:00am | 5:50am | Daily | |
| CO9313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | Daily | |
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 1:20pm | 1,7 via Rota | |
| CO9601 | 12:30pm | 1:20pm | 2,3,4,5,6 | |
| CO9603 | 3:30pm | 4:20pm | Daily | |
| CO9605 | 6:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily | |
| CO9599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily | |
| Saipan-Narita | | | | |
| NW 099 | 5:00am | 7:35am | Daily | |
| NW 078 | 8:20am | 1:30pm | 2,3,4,5,6,7 | |
| NW 075 | 4:55pm | 7:30pm | Daily | |
| Guam-Narita | | | | |
| NW 73 | 4:10pm | 7:00pm | Daily | |
| NW 81 | 3:55pm | 6:55pm | Daily | |
| Saipan-Osaka | | | | |
| OZ 119 | 4:00am | 6:40am | 1,4,6 | |
| Guam-Osaka | | | | |
| NW 79 | 4:45pm | 7:35pm | Daily | |
| Saipan-Nagoya | | | | |
| NW 078 | 8:20am | 11:05am | Daily | |
| Guam-Nagoya | | | | |
| NW 23 | 4:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily | |
| Saipan-Incheon | | | | |
| OZ 604 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 | |
| OZ 604 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2,3,4,5,6,7 | |
| OZ 119 | 4:00am | 11:25am | 1,4,6 via Osaka | |
| OZ 606 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | Daily | |
| Saipan-Busan | | | | |
| OZ 608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1,4,5,7 | |
| Saipan-Shanghai | | | | |
| FM 844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2,6 | |
| Rota-Guam | | | | |
| CO 9597 | 12:50pm | 1:20pm | 1,7 | |
| Guam-Palau | | | | |
| CO 953 | 7:40pm | 8:40pm | 1,7 | |
| CO 893 | 5:50pm | 6:50pm | 3,5 | |
| Palau-Manila | | | | |
| CO 893 | 7:35pm | 9:10pm | 3,5 | |
| Guam-Manila | | | | |
| CO 893 | 5:50pm | 9:10pm | 3,5 via Koror | |
| CO 933 | 8:00pm | 9:40pm | Daily | |
| PR 111 | 6:00am | 7:50am | 1,2,4,6,7 | |
| Nagoya-Manila | | | | |
| NW 71 | 8:40pm | 11:55pm | Daily | |
| Incheon-Hongkong | | | | |
| OZ 721 | 9:20am | 12:00pm | Daily | |
| OZ 723 | 7:45pm | 10:35pm | Daily | |
| OZ 7173 | 8:00pm | 10:50pm | 5,7 | |
| Narita-Manila | | | | |
| NW 1 | 7:00pm | 10:55pm | Daily | |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | |
| CO 9598 | 3:25am | 4:00am | 5,6 | |
| Guam-Saipan | | | | |
| CO 9316 | 2:30am | 3:20am | 1,2,3,4,7 | |
| CO9598 | 2:30am | 4:00am | 5,6 via Rota | |
| CO9596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | Daily | |
| CO9600 | 10:20am | 11:10am | Daily | |
| CO9602 | 2:00pm | 2:50pm | Daily | |
| CO9604 | 5:00pm | 5:50pm | Daily | |
| CO9606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily | |
| Narita-Saipan | | | | |
| NW 076 | 10:15am | 2:40pm | Daily | |
| NW 077 | 6:25pm | 1:20am+1 | 2,3,4,5,6,7 | |
| NW 100 | 8:45pm | 1:10am+1 | Daily | |
| Narita-Guam | | | | |
| NW 74 | 9:45am | 2:20pm | Daily | |
| NW 82 | 10:30am | 3:10pm | Daily | |
| Osaka-Saipan | | | | |
| OZ 120 | 9:50pm | 2:20am+1 | 3,5,7 | |
| Osaka-Guam | | | | |
| NW 80 | 10:30am | 3:00pm | Daily | |
| Nagoya-Saipan | | | | |
| NW 077 | 9:00pm | 1:20am+1 | Daily | |
| Nagoya-Guam | | | | |
| NW 24 | 10:00am | 2:30pm | Daily | |
| Incheon-Saipan | | | | |
| OZ 605 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | Daily | |
| OZ 603 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 | |
| OZ 120 | 7:10pm | 2:20am+1 | 3,5,7 via Osaka | |
| OZ 603 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1,2,3,4,5,6 | |
| Busan-Saipan | | | | |
| OZ 607 | 9:00pm | 2:10am+1 | 3,4,6,7 | |
| Shanghai-Saipan | | | | |
| FM 843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1,5 | |
| Guam-Rota | | | | |
| CO 9598 | 2:30am | 3:00am | 5,6 | |
| Palau-Guam | | | | |
| CO 954 | 2:30am | 5:25am | 1,2 | |
| CO 892 | 2:35am | 5:30am | 4,6 | |
| Manila-Palau | | | | |
| CO 892 | 10:10pm | 1:50am+1 | 3,5 | |
| Manila-Guam | | | | |
| CO 892 | 10:10pm | 5:30am+1 | 3,5 via Koror | |
| CO 934 | 11:10pm | 4:40am+1 | Daily | |
| PR 110 | 10:10pm | 4:00am+1 | 1,3,5,6,7 | |
| Manila-Nagoya | | | | |
| NW 72 | 6:30am | 11:05am | Daily | |
| Hongkong-Incheon | | | | |
| OZ 724 | 12:30am | 4:50am | Daily | |
| OZ 7183 | 12:45am | 5:05am | 1,4,6 | |
| OZ 722 | 1:30pm | 5:45pm | Daily | |
| Manila-Narita | | | | |
| NW 2 | 7:45am | 12:40pm | Daily | |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|--|---------|---------|-----------|
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 113 | 11:40am | 11:50am | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 7:00am | 7:30am | Daily | FRE 115 | 1:00pm | 1:10pm | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 117 | 2:30pm | 2:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 7:50am | 8:20am | Daily | FRE 119 | 4:00pm | 4:10pm | Daily |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | FRE 121 | 4:40pm | 4:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 200 | 9:00am | 9:30am | Daily | FRE 123 * | 5:40pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 125 * | 6:00pm | 6:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 200 | 9:50am | 10:15am | Daily | Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam** | | | |
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 102 | 7:05am | 7:15am | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 4:00pm | 4:30pm | Daily | FRE 104 | 7:50am | 8:00am | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 106** | 8:20am | 8:30am | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 4:50pm | 5:25pm | Daily | FRE 108** | 9:00am | 9:10am | Daily |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | FRE 110 | 10:00am | 10:10am | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 6:00pm | 6:30pm | Daily | FRE 112 | 11:05am | 11:15am | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 114 | 12:00pm | 12:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 6:45pm | 7:15pm | Daily | FRE 116 | 1:30pm | 1:40pm | Daily |
| Saipan-Tinian | | | | FRE 118 | 2:50pm | 3:00pm | Daily |
| FRE 101 | 6:45am | 6:55am | Daily | FRE 120** | 4:20pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30am | 7:40am | Daily | FRE 122** | 5:00pm | 5:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00am | 8:10am | Daily | FRE 124 | 6:05pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40am | 8:50am | Daily | FRE 126 | 6:20pm | 6:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am | 9:20am | Daily | | | | |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily | | | | |



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

CDA revisits lending policy for distressed borrowers

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority is revisiting its lending policies to help distressed borrowers continue operations, according to newly appointed executive director, Manuel Sablan.

PIC donates \$20K to CHC Volunteers, NMA

The Pacific Islands Club Saipan recently presented a total of \$20,000 to the CHC Volunteers Association and the Northern Marianas Athletics.

Representing PIC Saipan, Angela Santos and Vicky Benavente presented the contribution to the president of CHC Volunteers, Maggie Wonenberg.

"We have several projects we are currently working on, such as essential supplies for patients and hospital equipment such as the hyperbaric chamber," said Wonenberg. "On behalf of the CHC Volunteers, we thank the PIC Saipan for the generous donation."

NMA president Kurt Barnes also expressed appreciation to PIC Saipan. "The funds will be used toward the training camps for the kids who want to participate in running and other track and field activities," said Barnes.

Elias Rangamar, NMA member and 2008 Coach of the Year, added: "These camps will help

interest provided to delinquent borrowers under the debt relief program, the CDA board is willing to extend more assistance by deferring interest payment, allow borrowers to pay what they can afford, and in some cases allow borrowers to write off their loan obligations, he said.

Under the debt relief program, the agency grants a maxi-

mum repayment schedule of 30 years for delinquent borrowers who approach CDA for aid.

"We're going to revisit the lending policies to identify those areas in the rules that prevent us or constraint us from addressing the problems of our loan borrowers," Sablan said, adding that the board has intensified its willingness to

approve more relief options for distressed borrowers.

Sablan defines distressed borrowers as those who are currently doing business but are experiencing severe economic difficulty in meeting its obligation to the agency.

The executive director identified three types of CDA borrowers: those who are in business trying to find ways to meet their payments; borrowers who have closed operation and payment to the agency becomes personal or guarantor's obligations; and borrowers who have been affected by the bad economy but able to meet their payments.

"Our plan is to work with the distressed borrowers and look at their individual financial positions. We may ask them to pay what they can afford for now based on the status of their business. When

the economy improves, that's the time we may ask them to fulfill the loan obligation," he said, adding a condition may be set indicating an annual financial review of the business.

Sablan, who just came from a visit to a distressed borrower yesterday morning, said he felt the need to provide immediate assistance and consideration to existing businesses on island.

He narrated how a particular client with a 14-room apartment managed to pay his CDA obligation with only three tenants on his property.

"Our goal is to find a way to sustain and continue their operation in this present difficult times," Sablan said.

The director emphasized that restructuring the payment schedule will be a great help to problem borrowers.

Sablan said the possible write-off of certain obligation will also be reviewed by the management.

"We would like to see if it is legal for CDA to do that," he added.

In 2008, CDA reported a delinquent rate of 86 percent—or 68 out of a total 79 borrowers.

Although intensifying collection efforts will help improve the data, Sablan admitted that the current economic downturn remains a factor to consider.

In the economic forum next month, Sablan said CDA and the Department of Commerce will collaborate with the business sector to effectively identify solutions to existing problems.

An investment conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, is also slated this year where CDA hopes to attract new investors to the CNMI.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maggie Wonenberg, president of the CHC Volunteers Association accepts the donation from Vicky Benavente and Angela Yamashita-Santos, representing the PIC Saipan.

kids learn a lot of techniques and emphasize fun while exercising, especially while they are still very young.

Benavente said a portion of the funds was raised by proceeds from the "Hell of the Marianas," a 100km cycling

competition recently held at the PIC Saipan.

"Our mission is to provide guests with unique, fun and valuable experiences. PIC Saipan seeks ways to enhance and support the lives of all island residents," she added. (PR)

Diabetes: Fitness for Kids



- Stay physically active for at least 60 minutes a day
- Help your child find an organized sport that they enjoy (soccer, basketball or swimming)
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STOCK # 7C073538
\$19,995^{00*}



2004 Nissan Maxima SE
STOCK # 4C884688
\$14,995^{00*}



2004 Nissan Frontier 4x4
STOCK # 4C416992
\$13,995^{00*}



2004 Ford Explorer XLT
STOCK # 4U451928
\$12,995^{00*}



2005 Kia Rio
STOCK # 56395736
\$8,995^{00*}



2007 Ford Ranger King Cab
STOCK # 7PA31120
\$16,995^{00*}



2004 Nissan Quest S
STOCK # 4N344875
\$13,995^{00*}



2005 Ford Focus SE
STOCK # 5W222614
\$9,995^{00*}



2005 Nissan Frontier 4x4
STOCK # 5C411080
\$19,995^{00*}



2005 Kia Sportage 4x4
STOCK # 57085101
\$14,995^{00*}



2005 Nissan Sentra S
STOCK # 5L472573
\$11,995^{00*}



2005 Nissan Xterra SE
STOCK # 5C615035
\$18,995^{00*}



2005 Honda Civic LX
STOCK # 5H503419
\$12,995^{00*}

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NMC holds nutrition workshop for DYS staff

As part of an effort to promote better quality of life in the CNMI through nutrition education, Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research Extension and Education Services' Nutrition Programs Coordinator Patricia Coleman and Nutrition Educator Rose Castro recently completed a nutrition workshop designed for the staff of the Division of Youth Services.

Held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, the purpose of the workshop was to enhance the knowledge of DYS Emergency Shelter employees in the areas of nutrition: preparation, cooking, healthy choices, food safety. The training was done to help ensure that meals cooked and foods purchased for children in the shelter would be of better nutritional quality.

DYS division supervisor Vivian Sablan had contacted Coleman and Castro about the need

for a nutritional training class for DYS employees. Their response

was to offer DYS a nutritional workshop. The two CREES staff



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research Extension and Education Services' Nutrition Programs coordinator, Patricia Coleman, third from left in second row, and Nutrition Educator Rose Castro, not pictured, conduct a nutrition workshop for the Division of Youth Services Emergency Shelter employees. The workshop on March 3 consisted of training in the areas of child care and nutrition, which included discussions on nutrition-related issues in the community.

members then decided to customize the training module to better meet the needs of the DYS employees who fall under the category of childcare providers.

The workshop consisted of presentations on topics such as kitchen safety, sanitary food handling, understanding the food guide pyramid, making healthy choices and planning meals for children. Castro

and Coleman also encouraged roundtable discussions on diet, food safety, and nutritional issues common in the cultures of Saipan and Micronesia.

Castro reported that the pre- and post-assessment questionnaires that the employees took "showed an indication of improved nutrition knowledge after completion of training."

This can go a long way with the DYS employees, who work at a shelter "that has the potential to enhance the nutrition and

health status of the children they serve, as well as the families that the children come from," says Castro.

This workshop and training opportunity was part of a community project by CREES to promote healthy living and to fulfill the requirements for the School of Education, which are part of Castro's bachelor's of science degree program.

NMC-CREES is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture. (NMC)

NMC's short courses in marketing, Praxis prep and computer literacy

The Northern Marianas College, through the Division of Community Programs and Services' Community Development Institute, is offering short-term marketing, Praxis preparation, and computer literacy courses for interested community members. The classes are offered as part of the College's mission to provide customized, continuing educational and professional development opportunities in response to community needs.

How to Properly Use a Keyboard (Keyboarding)

March 13, 16-18, 2009
5pm-8pm (Fri., Mon.) 5pm-7pm (Tue., Wed.)
Room: W-4
Fee: \$70

Marketing and Promoting Your Business

Instructor: Jesse Torres
March 17, 19, 26, 31, April 2, 7, 9, 14
6pm to 8pm
Fee: \$120

Understanding Personal Computers (PCs) and How They

Work

March 19-20, 2009 (5pm-8pm)
Room: W-4
Fee: \$35

PRAXIS I Review

Instructor: Bertha De Leon Guerrero, Eric Johnson
March 21, 2009 (Saturday)
8am to 12:30pm
Room D-1 (NMC Campus)
Fee: \$60 (Course materials included)

E-mail: The Best Way to Communicate

March 23 & 25, 2009 (5pm-7pm)
Room: W-4
Fee: \$25

How to Use Word Processing Applications

March 26-7 & 30-31, 2009 (5-8pm)
April 1, 2009 (5pm-8pm)
Room: W-4
Fee: \$90

PRAXIS II Review

Instructor: Bertha De Leon Guerrero
March 28, 2009 (Saturday)

8am to 12:30pm
Room D-1 (NMC Campus)
Fee: \$60 (Course materials included)

Creating Digital Presentations

April 2-3 & 6-8, 2009 (5pm-8pm)
Room: W-4
Fee: \$90

How to Use Spreadsheet Applications

April 13-17, 2009 (5pm-8pm)
Room: W-4
Fee: \$90

A more detailed description of these courses can be found on www.nmcnet.edu.

All interested individuals should register at least seven days before the first day of class. Certificates of attendance and competence will be awarded to registered students who complete all course requirements. Full payment is required for admission to a class. To register or for information about these classes, please visit the CDI Office in Building P on the NMC Campus in As Terlaje or call 234-5498 extension 1005 or 1010. (NMC)

Good Luck!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

PauPau Bar Special
\$15.00 entrance fee
BOTTOMLESS on selected beer. Green Bottled Beer at \$3.00 each.
Special Green Cocktails available.

Receive a raffle ticket for a chance to WIN EXCITING PRIZES!!!

Tuesday, March 17, 2009
Fun starts at 6:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm
Discounts not applicable

Entertainment Available

The Palms
on PauPau Beach

For more information, please call The Palms Food & Beverage office at 670-322-3311

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• 2 cup of Soup of the Day
• Plate of Asian Salad
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Free Wi-Fi

1st floor, Comete Center, Garapan
Open from 11:00 am to 10:30 pm
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Ristorante Italiano
CAPRICCIOSA

Ultimate Seafood Treat
March 1 - 31, 2009

\$39.99
per couple

• Mussel Gratin and Fried Calamari Platter
• Shrimp and Smoked Salmon Cobb Salad with Ricotta Cheese
• Spaghetti with Shrimp, Fresh Tomato, and Bell Pepper in Spicy Tomato Sauce
• Pizza Marinara (with shrimp, squid, clam, and tuna)
• Pumpkin Pie
• 2 Bottles of Budweiser or Bud Light

Free Wi-Fi

1st floor, Comete Center, Garapan
Opens at 11:00 am - 10:30 pm
Tel.: 233-9194 or 233-9196

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Rota DPS sets insurance checkpoints today, tomorrow

The Rota Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting mandatory liability insurance checkpoints today and tomorrow, March 13-14, 2009.

In today's checkpoints, the first setup will be held along San Francisco Highway Pinatang by the Commerce Building. It will start at 4:30pm and last about 75 minutes and will end at 5:45pm. The second setup will be along San Francisco Highway Sinapalo 3 by the Children's Park. The checkpoint will start at 7pm, last about 75 minutes, and end at 8:15pm.

Tomorrow, the first checkpoint will be held along San Francisco Highway Unginao by the Rota Hotel. The checkpoint will start at 9am, last about 75 minutes, and end at 10:15am. The second setup will be held along San Francisco Highway Tatgua. It will start at 5pm, last about 75 minutes, and end at 6:15pm.

All checkpoints will be terminated if it begins to rain. Officers will also be conducting highway criminal interdictions and laser activities. For more information, contact Officer Jarrod Manglona at 670-532-9433. (PR)

Pre-Economic Summit sessions set

The Department of Commerce and Commonwealth Development Authority, in partnership with the Northern Marianas College and IT&E, announced that there will be a "Pre-Economic Summit Public Session" workshop at the Multi-Purpose Center Building in Susupe and the NMC campuses on Rota and Tinian on March 19, 2009 from 8:30am-1pm.

This session will focus on identifying economic opportunities, challenges, potential industries, and proposed changes to regulations that will benefit the Commonwealth. The event will also be broadcasted to Tinian and Rota through video teleconference to give participants there the opportunity to participate in this workshop.

The business community from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are encouraged to attend this important event. Registration is limited. To register for the event, send your name, contact information, address, company/corporation name, and island location to cnmibizz@gmail.com or you can call (670) 664-3018/3077. (PR)

Free parenting seminar tomorrow

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship will be having a parenting seminar called "Parenting God's Way" this Saturday, March 14, at their facility in Chalan Laulau. The seminar will be from 10am to 4pm, with guest speakers Mark and Terry Benavente from Guam.

Mark and Terry have been

married for 20 years and have two children. Mark is a graduate of the University of Hawaii and has been a pastor for 16 years. Terry is a graduate of the University of Guam and is a trainer with Special Education. They will be speaking about today's challenges as a parent and tips on how to have a healthy pattern for parenting.

The seminar is free of charge and lunch plates are provided by Kagman JROTC for \$5. Childcare is also available for free. Contact 285-4949 / 285-2378 or email at lifeintheson@pticom.com or visit www.lifeintheson.net for more details. (PR)

Puengin Inetnon today

Puengin Inetnon will be held again today, March 13, 2009, at the Kagman Community Center's parking lot. Puengin Inetnon is Kagman's Friday Night Market that will take place every government payday. It will begin at 4:30pm and end at 10pm. There will be vendors selling food, drinks, snacks, clothing, and crafts. Puengin Inetnon is a family oriented event. Alcohol will be prohibited from the event. All are welcome. Come attend Puengin Inetnon for some family fun, right here in Kagman. Interested vendors can call 256-POST for applications. (PR)

Kagman Saturday Flea Market

Kagman's Saturday Flea Market will be held tomorrow, March 14, 2009, at the Kagman Community Center's parking lot. It will be held every government payday Saturday. You may only sell your used items. Tents will be provided. Interested sellers can call 256-POST for more info. (PR)

Quarterly tax return deadline

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to remind all CNMI residents that the 2009 1st Quarter deadline for filing the quarterly tax returns is Thursday, April 30, 2009. The Division of Revenue and Taxation will be open from 7:30am to 4:30pm on Thursday, April 30, 2009. The office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation is located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. For additional information call 664-1000, 664-1043 Compliance Branch, or 664-1066 Collection Branch. (PR)

Income tax return deadline

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to inform all CNMI residents that the deadline for filing of the 2008 individual Income Tax Return is Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at the office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. Deadline hours for April 15, 2009 are from 7:30am to 4:30pm. (PR)

GUANGDONG HARDWARE

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GOOD NEWS TO ALL TINIAN/ROTA CUSTOMERS:
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4"-\$0.50/pc • 6"-\$0.60/pc • 8"-\$0.70/pc

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2X4X18 - \$5.80
2X4X20 - \$6.40
2X6X12 - \$6.90
2X6X14 - \$7.90
2X6X16 - \$8.90
2X6X18 - \$9.90
2X6X20 - \$10.90

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2X4X14 - \$7.30
2X4X16 - \$8.70
2X4X18 - \$9.70
2X4X20 - \$10.70
2X6X12 - \$10.20
2X6X14 - \$12.20
2X6X16 - \$14.20
2X6X18 - \$15.20
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SPECIALS OF THE WEEK



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USED CARS

| STOCK | YEAR | MODEL | TRANS. | MILEAGE | COLOR | LICENSE # | PRICE | REDUCED PRICE |
|----------------------|------|--------------|--------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------------|---------------|
| TOYOTA SEDANS | | | | | | | | |
| R08-022B | 2005 | ECHO 4DR | AUTO | 70447 | AQUA | ADH-691 | 7,999 | |
| R08-019F | 2005 | COROLLA 4DR | AUTO | 41092 | WHITE | ACD-346 | 10,799 | |
| R08-023F | 2007 | COROLLA 4DR | AUTO | 29549 | RED | ACE-780 | 14,999 | 12,999 |
| U08-090R | 2006 | COROLLA 4DR | AUTO | 42193 | BLUE | ACJ-553 | 11,399 | |
| R08-008F | 2006 | CAMRY LE 4DR | AUTO | 18576 | BEIGE | ADN-161 | 15,999 | |
| R08-020F | 2006 | CAMRY LE 4DR | AUTO | 50052 | RED | ADO-831 | 15,999 | 13,999 |
| R09-004B | 2004 | CAMRY LE 4DR | AUTO | 100808 | GRAY | ACB-770 | 9,999 | |
| R08-021F | 2005 | MATRIX BASE | AUTO | 68931 | RED | ACD-510 | 9,999 | |

GM CARS

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|----------------|------|-------|--------|---------|-------------------|-------|
| R08-014F | 2006 | AVEO 4DR. | AUTO | 33945 | WHITE | ADS-642 | 9,999 | 7,299 |
| R07-013F | 2005 | AVEO HATCHBACK | AUTO | 39164 | ORANGE | ADO-022 | 9,599 | 6,899 |
| R07-034F | 2005 | OPTRA 4DR. | AUTO | 14592 | SILVER | ACD-020 | 10,999 | 9,499 |
| U08-088R | 2005 | EPICA | AUTO | 38057 | BLACK | ADO-191 | 6,999 | |

LEXUS

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|-------------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| R08-003F | 2003 | LEXUS LS430 | AUTO | 54477 | IVORY | ADU-502 | 29,999 | 23,999 |
|----------|------|-------------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------------------|--------|

OTHER CARS & TRUCKS

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|------------------------|------|-------|--------|---------|-------------------|-------|
| U07-034T | 2000 | NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR. | AUTO | 68648 | WHITE | ACT-812 | 10,999 | 6,999 |
| U09-019T | 2003 | MAZDA PROTÉGÉ DX 4DR | AUTO | 50560 | SILVER | ABZ-858 | 6,999 | |
| U08-038T | 2001 | MITT MONTERO WGN | AUTO | 93155 | BEIGE | CVS-88 | 7,999 | |

GM VAN

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|-------------|------|--------|-------|----------|-------------------|-------|
| R09-002F | 2005 | EXPRESS VAN | AUTO | 101951 | WHITE | BUS-1231 | 9,999 | |
| U08-092L | 2005 | EXPRESS VAN | AUTO | 78403 | WHITE | BUS-1201 | 10,999 | 8,999 |

SPORT UTILITY

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|--------------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| U07-050T | 2002 | RAV4 4DR 4WD | AUTO | 39182 | WHITE | ABW-677 | 13,699 | 12,799 |
|----------|------|--------------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------------------|--------|



MICROL TOYOTA

Corner Beach Road and Chalan Mnsr. Guerrero in San Jose

Telephone: 234-5911 | Fax: 234-6514 | www.microlsaipan.com



Tinian school holds emergency workshop, fire drill

On March 4, 2009, four Tinian Fire Department personnel—Ike Kiyoshi, Rudy Santos, Jack Reyes and Mario Cruz—conducted a two-day Emergency Preparedness Workshop at the Tinian Elementary School campus. The workshop was in compliance with the PSS Strategic Priority for a Safe and Orderly School.

During the first day the DPS officers visited classrooms where they discussed preparing an emergency kit, creating an emergency plan and knowing the facts about how to react in an emergency. Afterwards, the children enjoyed touring the EMS and Fire Department vehicles that were on display.

On the second day, Ike Kiyoshi and Heinz Hofschneider



Tinian Elementary School children tour the EMS and Fire Department vehicles that are on display.

conducted earthquake “Stop, Drop and Cover” exercises from classroom to classroom. A

surprise fire drill added reality to the workshop. It took less than three minutes to evacuate all

teachers and students from their classrooms and have them assembled in temporary holding

areas. It took less than five minutes for the fire trucks and their personnel to arrive at the TES campus and less than 10 minutes to account for all students who had come

to school that day.

The staff and faculty at Tinian Elementary School were very thankful to fireman Kiyoshi for coordinating the two-day event. (PR)

WIA gears up for '09 summer youth employment program

The CNMI State Workforce Investment Agency has received supplemental funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for an expanded youth summer program capping the age for summer qualifiers funded under ARRA at 24 years old.

This means the qualifying age under ARRA 2009 is from 14 to 24 years old, while under WIA's ordinary formula grant, it will be for those 14 to 21 years old.

In preparation and prior to the qualified participants' job placements in the private and public sectors, WIA requires all summer qualifiers to attend various work readiness workshops in customer service, telephone etiquette, work ethics, personal grooming and basic financial literacy. These workshops are designed to prepare the youth participants of employer expectations prior to their entrance into the real working business environment, in addition to preparing them for their future in becoming skilled and competitive workers in the local and global employment markets. Employers are encouraged and appreciated for their effort in enhancing the summer participants' work readiness skills during their employment period within their companies.

The workshop will be conducted June 23-26, 2009 at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center from 8am to 12am and 1pm-5pm. OSHA workshops and the opportunity for participants and employers to meet are also the activities included during the week of June 23-26, 2009. Rota and Tinian are scheduled for June 29-30 respectively.

Summer applications will be made available today, March 13, 2009, at Marianas High School, Kagman and Saipan Southern high schools and Hopwood and Chacha Oceanview for junior high. Applications for Rota and Tinian will be made available at the OPM Offices within their respective municipalities.

WIA will begin accepting summer applications on Saipan beginning March 16, 2009, 7:30am to 4:30pm. The Saipan case manager will be on Rota at the WIA Rota Office on March 20 and April 10 to receive summer applications and to conduct assessments. Tinian is scheduled for March 27 and April 23.

In the interest of the participants' safety, OSHA compliance, and in accordance with the USDOL's YouthRules! Initiative, which promotes positive and safe work experience for young workers, WIA as the administering agency for the USDOL ETA Youth funds reserves the right not to fill some requested slot if the slots are considered non-conducive to the YouthRule! Initiative.

Based on the funding level for this year's summer program and placement slots, WIA's goal is to embrace a total of 813 qualified summer participants including Rota and Tinian and wishes to express its utmost appreciations to all the participating employers for their willingness and support in becoming WIA's partner again for this year's summer program.

Applicants are encouraged to ensure completeness of the application and submission of all required documents. Incomplete applications will not be certified by WIA. Official deadline for all summer applications submission to WIA is April 30, 2009, 4:30pm. Applicants will be qualified based on prior index ranking, barriers and income, not by the application's receipt or first-come, first-serve basis. The participants will officially report to work in two different schedules for a period of four weeks beginning July 6-31, 2009 for the first qualifiers and Aug. 3-28, 2009, for the second qualifiers.

For inquiries, contact WIA at 664-1708/ 1757 or fax at 664-1710 and e-mail at gov.wia@pticom.com. (PR)

Live fire releases on FDM on March 17-19

The Emergency Management Office would like to inform the public that the U.S. military would be conducting live fire releases on the Farallon de Mendenilla from March 17 to 19, 12:30pm-6:30pm.

The general location of the live fire releases will be on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla and on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is strongly advising the public—

especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Emergency Management Office, Operations Section at 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF Marine CHNL 16. HP Single Side Radio on 5.205.0. (PR)

2009 CLEARANCE

INTRODUCING MICROL'S ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE!

2.99% APR*

\$0 Down Payment

HURRY WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

\$15,999

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Per Paycheck



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COROLLA

UNITS 5 AVAILABLE



CAMRY

UNITS 6 AVAILABLE



RAV4

UNITS 5 AVAILABLE

OAC. Conditions apply. Yaris SP \$15,999. Total deferred \$16,313.00. Monthly payment of \$293.07. Zero down payment. 60 months term financing at 2.99% APR. Must be a PFCU member to qualify.



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TOYOTA



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288-9290/3639

KAGMAN MARKET

256-4989

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Spring Special Sale

MARCH 13-15, 2009

Clothing Special



\$1 - \$3

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



SELECTED ITEMS ARE LIMITED PER CUSTOMER

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| Quarter Leg Chicken Limit 2 Case SALE \$16.99 22 lbs. | Sun-Land Whole Young Chicken SALE Limit 1 \$33.99 /case | Pork Spareribs BBQ or Adobo Cut SALE \$15.49 20 lbs. Limit 2 | Danish Baby Ribs SALE \$13.99 10 lbs. Limit 2 | Gusto Smoked SALE \$1.99 /lb. | Horse Mackerel Limit 2 SALE \$20.99 /22 lbs. |
| Salad Oil 5 Gallon Limit 1 SALE \$26.99 | Lotus Brand Rice SALE \$23.99 50 lbs. | Diamond G Calrose Rice Limit 1 SALE \$32.99 50 lbs. | Royal Thai Lady Rice Limit 1 SALE \$27.99 50 lbs. | Milk Fish SALE \$1.39 /lb. \$54.99 /case | Tilapia 99¢ /lb. SALE \$37.99 /case |
| Ichiban Original Flavor SALE \$7.99 Limit 1 Case | Spam All Flavors SALE \$1.99 /each Limit 1 Case | Rits Soda All Flavor SALE \$10.99 /case Limit 1 Case | Coke Warm only SALE \$12.99 /case Limit 1 Case | Hite Beer SALE \$14.50 /case Limit 1 Case | |

GROCERY ITEMS

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| Hormel Chili (No Beans) SALE \$1.59 Limit 12 | Hormel Corned Beef Hash SALE \$1.79 Limit 12 | Sunflower Mackerel SALE \$1.49 | Coco Tuna SALE 99¢ Limit 12 | Coco Mackerel SALE \$1.29 /each | Ligo Sardines SALE 3 for \$1.00 Limit 12 | Black Label Luncheon Meat SALE \$1.39 Limit 12 |
| Armour Vienna Sausage SALE 59¢ /each | Ox & Plam Corned Beef Limit 12 \$2.29 /each | Del Monte Kernel Corn SALE 69¢ | Del Monte Fruit Cocktail SALE \$3.99 | Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce All Flavors SALE \$1.29 | Morton Salt SALE 69¢ | Ajinomoto SALE 99¢ |
| Carnation Milk SALE 99¢ | Golden State Vinegar SALE \$2.99 | Sugar SALE \$1.59 /kg. | Kikkoman Limit 1 Cs. (6 lbs) SALE \$3.79 1.6 Ltr. | Fresco Cooking Oil SALE \$7.99 | Argo Cornstarch SALE 79¢ | Excellent Rice Stick 80 oz. SALE 99¢ |
| Vlasic Dill Pickles \$6.99 Whole \$5.95 Whole | Chamorro Punch SALE \$8.99 | Seoksu Water 500 ml. SALE \$5.99 /case | Sunkist All Flavors SALE \$5.95 /case | Kool Aid 34 Qt. SALE \$6.95 | Nestea 36 qts. SALE \$6.99 | Zest-O Juice All Flavors SALE \$1.95 |
| Tang 22 quarts SALE \$5.99 | Jin Korean Soy Sauce 1.8 Ltr. SALE \$2.99 | Kimchee Base 450 G. SALE \$4.95 | Folgers Classic Roast 39 oz. SALE \$7.99 | Dinty Moore Stew (Beef, Chicken, Meat Ball) SALE \$1.49 /15 oz. | Wilkins Water 4000 ml. SALE \$1.95 | |

FROZEN FOOD

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| Chopped Ham SALE \$10.99 /5 lbs. \$17.99 /10 lbs. | Pork Riblets SALE \$10.99 /cs. | Beef Rib Finger SALE \$2.99 /lb. | Ground Pork SALE \$16.99 /10 lbs. | Ground Beef SALE \$15.99 /10 lbs. | Pork Butt SALE \$1.79 /lb. |
| Chamorro Sausage SALE \$3.99 /pkg. | Miller Sausage SALE \$14.99 /pkg. | Hoffy Portuguese Sausage SALE \$1.99 /pkg. | Mackerel Pike SALE \$21.99 /22 lbs. | <div> Family Bag Special Pork Hocks.....\$8.95 Pork Belly.....\$10.95 Pork Adobo.....\$9.95 Pork Spareribs.....\$6.95 Pork Chops.....\$13.95 Beef Stew.....\$13.95 Beef Backribs.....\$8.95 Beef Shortribs.....\$15.95 Stewing Chicken.....\$5.95 Quarter Leg s.....\$5.95 </div> | |
| Chicken Winggets SALE \$9.99 /5 lbs. | Bar S Bacon SALE \$2.49 /pkg. | Kam Yen Jan Chinese Style Sausage SALE \$3.49 /pkg. | Bar S Jumbo Franks SALE \$1.05 /pkg. | Dragon Raw Headon White Shrimp 16/20 SALE \$3.99 /1lb. | |

NON-FOOD

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Charmin Tissue 24 Rolls SALE \$5.99 | Bounty Basic 8 Rolls SALE \$7.95 | Toilet Tissue 10 Rolls SALE \$3.95 | Soft & Gentle 24 Rolls SALE \$8.99 | Jubilee Tissue 24 Rolls SALE \$8.99 | Korean Facial Tissue 3 Packs SALE \$4.50 | Cottonelle Tissue 12 Rolls SALE \$3.99 |
| Top Detergent 3 kg. SALE \$5.99 | Gain Liquid Detergent SALE \$4.99 | Suavitel 850 ml. SALE \$1.59 | Joy Dishwashing Liquid 90 oz. SALE \$5.99 | Safeguard Bar Soap SALE 59¢ /each | Clorox 96 oz. SALE \$2.99 | Butane Gas SALE \$21.99 /case Limit 2 |
| Adult Diapers SALE \$7.95 | Luvs Diapers Big Box All Sizes SALE \$16.95 | Suave Shampoo & Conditioner 15 oz. 2 for \$2.50 | White Rain Shampoo & Conditioner 590 ml. 2 for \$2.95 | Axxion Foam Plates 125 ct. SALE \$6.95 | Better Value 40 ct. SALE \$1.50 | Penosonic Emergency Light with Fan SALE \$33.95 |

PRODUCE

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Potato (Jumbo) SALE 79¢ /lb. | Orange SALE 89¢ /lb. | Orange Cielo SALE \$3.99 /lb. | Cantaloupe SALE \$1.29 /lb. |
| Red Onion SALE 99¢ /lb. | Onion SALE 59¢ /lb. | Garlic SALE 89¢ /pack-4 pcs. | U.S. Eggs Extra Large SALE \$1.99 /doz. |

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NMI continues work for stimulus money

Commerce Secretary Michael Ada said he would be pleased if the CNMI was awarded \$100 million to \$150 million in competitive stimulus grant money.

"I think that's a reasonable estimate," he said yesterday during a press conference.

Ada has been working with several grant writers to fill out the applications, so the CNMI can have a shot at receiving a slice of the funds that are a part of the \$787 billion package signed into law last month.

The list of possible CNMI projects that could be funded continues to grow daily. It is currently totaling more than \$400 million.

"We know, realistically, that amount of money is very, very difficult to come by, especially when you are competing with

other jurisdictions," he said.

It's important, the official noted, to remember it's not which jurisdiction turns in the application first, but which one is best. "Other jurisdictions may have applications ready, but quality is what matters," he said.

The grant applications for power will be available for public comment starting today at www.commerce.gov.mp. The entire application will not be available, but the public can review the project over the next 10 days, Ada said.

Formula grant money, the other component to the funding package that is non-competitive, is starting to trickle in. Ada said he estimates the CNMI will receive about \$30 million. *(Kristi Eaton)*

GCA wins 5 gold medals at the PGFC Regionals

Grace Christian Academy won five of the 12 medals awarded at the PGFC Regional competition that was held at Marianas High School on March 7, 2009.

A total of 12 major awards were given in the medal rounds. GCA administration, faculty and staff, and especially the parents congratulate all the winners for a job well done. Below is a complete list of all the winners.

MEDAL ROUNDS

K-2 Division

Impromptu Speaking
Matt Jason Moran- 1st Place
Martin Angelo Pangilinan- 2nd Place

Arvin Dayao- 3rd Place
Bryant Bryce Cayabyab- 4th Place

Readers Forum

Claudilyn Lacbayo- 1st Place
Arvin Dayao- 5th Place

3-5 Division

Dramatic Interpretation
Yujin Lee- 1st Place

Humorous Interpretation
Cameron Boyer- 1st Place

Impromptu Speaking
Peter Luis Camacho- 2nd Place
Dianne Doris Arnold- 3rd Place

Readers Forum

Cameron Boyer- 1st Place
Yujin Lee- 3rd Place

Finalists-Those who made it to the Final/Medal Rounds (In no particular order)

K-2 Division

Impromptu Speaking
Bryant Bryce Cayabyab
Tae Yong Kim
Matt Jason Moran
Martin Angelo Pangilinan
Arvin Dayao
Seung Jae Kim

Readers Forum
Claudilyn Lacbayo
Arvin Dayao

Choral Speaking
Karena Lei Torres
Jasmine Phan
Andrei Ferrer



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The winning students of the Grace Christian Academy have their picture taken with their medals and ribbons.

Marcelo Masilungan Jr.

3-5 Division

Dramatic Interpretation
Yujin Lee

Humorous Interpretation
Cameron Boyer

Impromptu Speaking
Dianne Doris Arnold
Peter Luis Camacho
Angela Felici Cruz

Readers Forum
Cameron Boyer
Yasmin Angela Marcelo
Yujin Lee

Readers Forum Semi-finalists

K-2 Division

RF-Semi-finals A
SheriJean Dela Cruz
Claudilyn Lacbayo
Karena Lei Torres

RF-Semi-finals B
Matt Jason Moran
Arvin Dayao

3-5 Division

RF-Semi-finals A
Cameron Boyer
Rita Laxamana
Maia Pangelinan
Alyssa Jean Pantaleon

RF-Semi-finals B
Peter Luis Camacho
Yasmin Angela Marcelo
Yujin Lee

Readers Forum Semi-finals Winners

K-2 Division

RF-Semi-finals A
Claudilyn Lacbayo-1st Place
SheriJean Dela Cruz-5th Place

RF-Semi-finals B
Arvin Dayao-3rd Place

3-5 Division

RF-Semi-finals A
Cameron Boyer- 2nd Place

RF-Semi-finals B
Yujin Lee- 2nd Place
Yasmin Angela Marcelo- 3rd Place
Peter Luis Camacho- 4th Place

FLIGHT (First Round)

RESULTS

K-2 Division

Impromptu Speaking A
Martin Angelo Pangilinan - 1st Place
Matt Jason Moran- 2nd Place
Arvin Dayao- 3rd Place
Hannah Palacios- 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking B
Bryant Bryce Cayabyab- 1st Place
Tae Yong Kim- 2nd Place
Caryl Batenga- 3rd Place
Riley Anne Buenaventura- 4th Place

Impromptu Speaking C
Seung Jae Kim- 2nd Place
Haram Na- 5th Place

Readers Forum-A
Karena Lei Torres- 2nd Place

Readers Forum-B
Matt Jason Moran- 1st Place
Jim Michael Ham- 4th Place

Readers Forum-C
SheriJean Dela Cruz- 1st Place

Readers Forum-E
Claudilyn Lacbayo- 1st Place
Caryl Batenga- 3rd Place

Readers Forum-G
Arvin Dayao- 1st Place
Elijah Joshua Pajarillaga- 4th Place

Readers Forum-H
Karena Lei Torres
Jasmine Phan
Andrei Ferrer
Marcelo Masilungan Jr.

Choral Speaking A- 5th Place

Readers Forum-I
Glenn Nelson Vidal- 5th Place

Readers Forum-J
Yujin Lee- 2nd Place

Teachers/Coaches

Melissa Harper, K5
Leah Garfil, 1st Grade
Kate Ganapin, 2nd Grade
Kelly Dawe, 3rd Grade

2008-2009 GCA PGFC Volunteer Judges
Mark Birmingham
Mirasol Dayao
Alicia Gray
Marites Gortayo
Renato Macatangay
Mary Ann Sacramento
Rose Shirata
Laura Vagle
Rachel Wolstenholm

Impromptu Speaking- A
Dianne Doris Arnold- 1st Place
Peter Luis Camacho- 2nd Place
Angela Felici Cruz- 3rd Place
Joy Kimiko Tenorio- 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking- B
Mark Daniel Versoza- 4th Place
Camille Masilungan- 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking- C
Maia Pangelinan- 2nd Place
Joy Kimiko Tenorio- 3rd Place

Readers Forum-A
Cameron Boyer- 1st Place
Alyssa Jean Pantaleon- 2nd Place

Readers Forum-B
Peter Luis Camacho- 1st Place

Readers Forum-C
Francis Joseph Dalusung- 4th Place
Vyela Cervera- 5th Place

Readers Forum-D
Rita Laxamana- 2nd Place
Aileen Camille Dimaano- 4th Place

Readers Forum-E
Glenn Nelson Vidal- 5th Place

Readers Forum-F
Yujin Lee- 2nd Place

Readers Forum-G
Melissa Harper, K5
Leah Garfil, 1st Grade
Kate Ganapin, 2nd Grade
Kelly Dawe, 3rd Grade

Readers Forum-H
Glenn Nelson Vidal- 5th Place

Readers Forum-I
Yujin Lee- 2nd Place

Readers Forum-J
Yujin Lee- 2nd Place

Teachers/Coaches
Melissa Harper, K5
Leah Garfil, 1st Grade
Kate Ganapin, 2nd Grade
Kelly Dawe, 3rd Grade

2008-2009 GCA PGFC Volunteer Judges
Mark Birmingham
Mirasol Dayao
Alicia Gray
Marites Gortayo
Renato Macatangay
Mary Ann Sacramento
Rose Shirata
Laura Vagle
Rachel Wolstenholm

GCA PGFC trainer/coordinator: Esther Manzano

BANANA Workshop

Saipan

March 16-17 - Pacific Islands Club
8:00am-4:30pm

Rota

March 18-19 - As Paris Restaurant
8:00am-4:30pm

Tinian

March 20-21 - NMC Campus Room D
8:00am-4:30pm

Registration Fee: \$5.00 for two days
Registration Starts 7:30 ea. day

For more Information call 234-5498 ext. 1707

Educational programs are open to all, regardless of age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion or disability.

This Workshop was organized in furtherance to the Cooperative Extensions Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914 in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Funding for this advertisement was provided by ADAP

Happy Market

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CARDS ACCEPTED

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| LEG QUATER \$19.95 <small>33 LBS/CASE</small> \$16.95 <small>22 LBS/CASE</small> <small>LIMIT 1 CASE</small> | WHOLE CHICKEN <small>30 LBS/CASE</small> \$33.99 <small>LIMIT 1 CASE</small> | PORK SPARERIBS <small>20 LBS/CASE</small> \$15.95 <small>LIMIT 1 CASE</small> | IRISH PORK BABY RIBS <small>10 LBS/CASE</small> \$12.95 <small>LIMIT 1 CASE</small> | ROYAL THAI JASMINE RICE <small>50 LBS.</small> \$27.95 | SUNWEST RICE <small>50 LBS.</small> \$31.95 | DIAMOND G RICE <small>50 LBS.</small> \$32.95 <small>LIMIT 1 SACK</small> |
| ICHIBAN <small>ORIGINAL FLAVOR</small> \$7.99 <small>LIMIT 1 CASE</small> | SALAD OIL <small>5 GALLON</small> \$26.99 <small>LIMIT 1</small> | SPAM 12 OZ. ALL KINDS \$1.99 <small>LIMIT 6 CANS</small> | OX & PALM CORNED BEEF \$2.29 <small>LIMIT 6 CANS</small> | FROZEN MACKEREL <small>22 LBS.</small> \$20.95 | PIKE MACKEREL <small>22 LBS.</small> \$20.95 | GAIN \$17.95 <small>120 LOADS</small> |

FAMILY BAG Special

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Beef Shortribs | \$12.95 |
| Pork Chops | \$9.95 |
| Pork Belly | \$9.95 |
| Pork Adobo | \$9.95 |
| Stewing | \$6.95 |
| Beef Stew | \$12.95 |
| Pork Buttsteak | \$10.99 |
| Ham Steak | \$9.95 |
| Collar Salmon | \$14.95 |
| Mackerel | \$6.95 |

NON-FOOD

| | |
|--|--|
| Bounty Basics 8 Rolls \$7.99 | Charmin 24 Extra Strong \$7.99 |
| Joy Dishwashing 90 oz. \$5.95 | Soft N' Gentle 24 Rolls \$8.95 |
| Dawn Dishwashing 90 oz. \$7.99 | Sunshine Table Napkin 500 cts. \$4.99 |
| Foam Plate 125 cts. \$6.99 360 cts. | Bounty 15 Rolls \$18.95 |
| Diamond Foil 200 sq. ft. \$6.99 | Spoon & Fork 51 ct. 79¢ |
| Wonderful Soap 1.5 kg. \$3.50 | Bounty Napkins 200's \$3.69 |
| Top Powder 3 kg. \$6.99 | Cottonelle Tissue Reg 24's \$7.99 |
| Luvs Big Pack Diapers All Sizes \$18.95 | |

FROZEN

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| Chicken Wingettes 5 lbs. \$9.95 | Bar-S Gusto Chopped Ham \$16.95 /10 lbs. | Bar-S Hotdog 99¢ /lb. <small>LIMIT 6 PACKS.</small> | Bar-S Hot Links Sausage \$2.99 24 oz. | Kamabuko \$2.99 | Miller Beef Franks \$14.95 /5 lbs. | Jumbo Squid 99¢ /lb. |
| Chamorro Sausage \$3.95 /1 lb. | Ham Leg Bone In \$1.89 /lb. | Chicken Nuggets \$6.99 /bag | Seaport Imitation Crab Meat 1 lb. \$1.69 | Vega Shrimps 16/20 \$4.99 /1 lb <small>1 Box</small> | Portuguese Sausage \$1.99 | Beef Patties \$3.99 /2.5 lbs. |
| Pork Butt \$1.69 /lb. | Salmon Tail \$1.99 /lb. | Blue Crab (2.5) \$6.95 /lb. | Green Mussels \$4.95 /2 lbs. | Beef Rib Finger \$2.89 /lb. | Bar-S Bacon \$2.39 | Peeled Shrimp 1 lb. \$2.99 |
| Hokkigai Clam \$5.99 /lb. | Milk Fish \$1.49 /lb. | Tilapia (4-6) 99¢ /lb. | Dungenes Crab \$5.99 /lb. | U.S. Medium Eggs \$1.79 /1 doz. | San Pedro Squid \$1.89 /1 lb. | Seafood Combo 1 lb. \$2.29 /1 lb. |

GROCERIES

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| Beach Cliff Sardines 79¢ | Armour Vienna Sausage 5 oz. 59¢ | Hormel Corned Beef Hash 16 oz. \$1.69 | Hormel Black Label 12 oz. \$1.39 <small>LIMIT 6 CANS</small> | Hormel with Beans 15oz. \$1.39 | Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. \$1.59 | Bumblebee Pink Salmon \$2.95 | Sunflower Tuna 99¢ | Ace of Diamond Tuna \$1.19 |
| Campbells Chicken Noodle 10.75 g. 99¢ | Fresco Oil 1 Gal. \$7.99 | Ventura Mayonaisse 1 Gal. \$9.50 | Carnation Evap Milk Limit 3 99¢ | Del Monte Whole Corn 15-25 oz. 69¢ | Sunflower Mackerel 15 oz. \$1.59 | DelMonte Spag Sause 26.5 oz. \$3.00 2 for | Foremost Milk Real/Low Fat \$16.99 /cs | Bumblebee Red Salmon 46 oz. \$5.95 |
| Kikkoman Soy Sauce 1.6 L. \$3.79 | Golden State Vinegar \$2.69 | Kimchee Base 450 G. \$4.99 | Ajinomoto 1 lb. 99¢ <small>LIMIT 1</small> | Morton Salt 69¢ | Lemon Powder \$4.95 | Sugar 2 kg. \$1.49 | Real Fresh Milk 12/32 oz. Regular Only \$16.95 | Carnation Coffee Creamer 1 lb. \$1.69 |
| Argo Cornstarch Limit 3 79¢ | Gold Medal Flour \$2.99 | Folgers Ground Coffee 39 oz. \$7.99 <small>LIMIT 1</small> | Coffemate 35.3 oz. \$5.99 | Tang 22 qtz. \$5.99 | Kool Aid 36 qtz. \$7.99 | Chamorro Punch 1 Gal. \$8.99 | Seoksu Water 500 ml. \$5.99 /cs. | Sunkist All Flavor \$5.99 /cs. |

PRODUCE

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Garlic 99¢ /lb. | Ginger \$1.25 /lb. | Onion 59¢ /lb. | Green Cabbage 69¢ /lb. | Potato 79¢ /lb. | Banana 99¢ /lb. | Honey Dew 99¢ /lb. | Orange Cello \$3.50 /4 lbs. |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipattamenton I Tano’ Pupbliku

NOTISIAN MAPROPONE POT ATKILON TÂNO’ PUPBLIKU

Kinonsiste ni Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lai Pupbliku 15-2, I Dipattamenton I Tano’ Pupbliku man nânâ’i’ notisia pot I intension na para u ma’atkila I tano’ pupbliku giya Saipan, Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana. Maseha hâyi na petsona gi pupbliku henerât siña muna halom opinion, infotmasion, kinontran testimonio pot para u kuentâyi I propositun I Kontrâtan Atkilon. Ni maprobeniyi mâs ginen I Lai Pupbliku 15-2, manisisita para u mapupblika I man impotânte na infotmasion gi sigente:

- i. I tano’ pupbliku ni ma’atkila madeskribi kumo Sitio Numiro 190 E 01 a konsiste kâsi 4,809 square meters menos osino mâs, ni gaige gi Lower Base giya Saipan. Kopian I lugât I sitio gaige gi Dipattamenton I Tano’ Pupbliku para u ma’ina.
- ii. I para u atkila I Cargo Express (Saipan), Inc., un koporasion giya CNMI. I Direktot I Kuetpon I koporasion I man sigente: si Liberato C. Legaspi, Marie Christine T. Legaspi, Alejo C. Legaspi, yan si Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi.

- I presidente I koporasion si Liberato C. Legaspi. I segundon I presidete si Marie Christine T. Legaspi. I sekretârio si Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi. I tresurerun si Alejo C. Legaspi.
- ii. Si Siñot Liberato C. Legaspi yan si Siñot Noel Masongsong a negosio I kontrâta para I mapropone na atkilon.
- iii. I para u fanatkila debi u na'setbi i tano' solamenti para u na'guaha' fasilidât para muna'hanao kâtga siha.

I tiempun I mapropositu na Kontrâtan Atkilon bente-singko âños (25 yrs.), gai’ chânsa para u ekstiende para talo kinse âños (15 yrs.).

I mapropositu na âpas atkilon gi sakkan durânten I tiempo sigun I mapega na presiu pot I baliña I lugât.

- v. I kabâles na kopian I Kontrâtan Atkilon siña u machule’ gi Ofisinan I Dipattamenton I Tano’ Pupbliku, ni gaige gi mina dos na bibienda gi Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, giya Saipan, mina dos bibienda gi Bank of Saipan Commercial Building giya Luta, fine’nina na bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building giya Tinian.

- vi. Tî maresibe’ otto na klâsen propositu ni I Dipattamenton I Tano’ Pupbliku ni para u ma’atkila I tano’ giya Lower Base, Saipan.

- vii. I Sekritârio gi Dipattamenton I Tano’ Pupbliku siempre a aksepta tinige’ opinion, mensâhen kinontra yan testimonio osino otto siha na propositu ginen I man enteresao na petsona gi pat ântes di Matso 23, 2009 gi Ofisinan I Dipatta-menton I Tano’ Pupbliku ni gaige giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) mellól Allégghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong ischil mángámangiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Allégghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngali milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap ekke bwáári Lot No.190 E 01, eyoor faawu sangaras walabwughúw tiwoow (4,809 square meters), elap me ngáre eghús, elo Lower Base, Seipél. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor llól Bwulasi-yool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngare óubwe ghuley fischiy.

- ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Cargo Express (Saipan), Inc., CNMI corporation. Schóóy mwiisch mellol Corpora-tion nge Liberato C. Legaspi, Marie Christine T. Legaspi, Alejo C. Legaspi, me Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi.

Schóóy assamwool nge Liberato C. Legaspi, Vice President nge Marie Christine T. Legaspi, sekkretario nge Alejo C. Legaspi, treasurer nge Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi.

- iii. Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Liberato C. Legaspi me Mr. Noel C. Masongsong.

- iv. Schóóy akkilon ebwe yááli bwuley reel leliyel ammwelil kkaragha schagh.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon ebwe ruweigh me limwoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limwoow ráágh (15 years).

Pomwol akkilon ebwe mwir sáangi llapal méél falúw (value of the property) fengal me milikka re ayuuw mellol faluw.

- v. Emmwel óubwe bwughil tilighial akkilon mellól bwulasiyool ammwelil falúweer toulap, elo aruwowal pwó(2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.

- vi. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo akkáaw pomwol akkilon yeel me Lower Base, Saipan.

Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ebwe bwughil aweewe kkaal, aingiingil, mereer amweyút aramas mmwal schagh Mááilap (March) 23, 2009 mellól Depattamentool Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta me Tchúlúyól..

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 190 E 01, containing an area of approximately 4,809 square meters, more or less, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- iii. The prospective lessee is Cargo Express (Saipan), Inc., a CNMI corporation. The board of directors of the corpora-tion are Liberato C. Legaspi, Marie Christine T. Legaspi, Alejo C. Legaspi, and Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi.

The President of the corporation is Liberato C. Legaspi. The vice president is Marie Christine T. Legaspi. The secretary is Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi. The Treasurer is Alejo C. Legaspi.

- iv. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Liberato C. Legaspi and Mr. Noel C. Masongsong.

- v. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating a freight forwarding facility.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property including existing structures.

- v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

- vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base, Saipan.

- vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before March 23, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950-1055 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM REPLACEMENT
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-09
DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Design and Replacement of the Saipan International Airport's Public Address System on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails design, supply and installation of a complete public address (PA) system at the entire international terminal of the Saipan International Airport. The detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, March 6, 2009. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. **Only proposers that responded to the “Request for Interest” and attended the pre-proposal conference of February 27, 2009 will be eligible to submit proposals.**

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Public Address System Replacement – Design/Build Services”. One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2009**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The offerer shall submit with their proposal the following:

1. Letter of interest;
2. Design and Installation Timeline
3. Project Approach;
4. D-B Construction Team;
5. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
6. Available resources to accomplish the project;
7. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
8. Valid CNMI Business License.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience of personnel that will be directly in charge of the project. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams. Project approach, timeline and cost must be within the parameters of the established Statement of Work (SOW). Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualifica-tion of the offeror's proposal package. All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Total cost for design and installation | 30% |
| 2. D-B Installation time frame (Critical and must be submitted with the Request for Proposal Package. The work days are calendar days.) | 25% |
| 3. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff | 20% |
| 4. Experience of the firm on similar or related projects | 15% |
| 5. Project Approach | 10% |

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals. Award of a contract is contingent upon prior approval from FAA. Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The contract period for design and replacement will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of \$500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancella-tion; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: March 9, 2009



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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**SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
GENERATOR PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE
AND OPERATION SERVICES
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-006-09
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Preventive Maintenance and Operation Services of the Saipan International Airport's Backup Generator System on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing preventive maintenance services and operation of its two (2) 1.8 megawatt Caterpillar generators and ASCO controls at the Saipan International Airport. The detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, March 6, 2009. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “*Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Generator Preventive Maintenance and Operation Services*”. One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2009**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: March 3, 2009



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Business

Official says govt shouldn't micromanage banks

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government should refrain from micromanaging banks that receive taxpayer assistance, a top Treasury official cautioned lawmakers itching to see results from a \$700 billion rescue program for the financial sector. Neel Kashkari, interim assistant secretary for financial stability at Treasury, told a congressional oversight panel Wednesday that banks should not be forced to make loans that bankers might deem risky.

"However well-intended, government officials are not positioned to make better commercial decisions than lenders in our communities," he told a subcommittee of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

Kashkari, who was put in the job during the Bush administration, testified amid growing impatience among members of

Congress who want evidence that the taxpayer money and the Treasury strategies are actually loosening credit markets.

Within weeks, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner plans to unveil a new public-private investment fund that will be used to purchase illiquid assets, such as toxic mortgage related securities at the heart of the financial crisis. Kashkari said the private sector has voiced interest in the program and said he expects pension funds and mutual funds that hold retirement savings to be among the major investors.

"My assumption is that most of the capital will come from the savings of the American people," he said.

Kashkari said he didn't expect the private sector investment to get any advantage over the government's investment. "If the private sector wins, the

taxpayer wins," he said. "If the taxpayer loses, the private sector loses."

Lawmakers voiced frustration with what they said was a continued lack of clarity from the Treasury on how banks were spending money they have received under the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

Under the TARP initiative, the federal government has used more than \$300 billion in taxpayer money to infuse financial institutions with cash, much of it by purchasing preferred stock and other assets.

Subcommittee chairman Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, complained that at least three financial institutions that have received TARP money—Citigroup Inc., Bank of America Corp., and JP Morgan Chase and Co.—have made billions of dollars in foreign investments.

Foreclosures up 30 percent in February

WASHINGTON (AP)—Despite halts on new foreclosures by several major lenders, the number of households threatened with losing their homes rose 30 percent in February from last year's levels, RealtyTrac reported Thursday.

Nationwide, nearly 291,000 homes received at least one foreclosure-related notice last month, up 6 percent from January, according to the Irvine, Calif.-based company. While foreclosures are highly concentrated in the Western states and Florida, the problem is spreading to states like Idaho, Illinois and Oregon as the U.S. economy worsens.

"It doesn't bode well," for the embattled U.S. housing

market, said Rick Sharga, vice president for marketing at RealtyTrac, a foreclosure listing firm. "At least for the foreseeable future, it's going to continue to be pretty ugly."

The rise in foreclosure filings came despite temporary halts to foreclosures by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and major banks JPMorgan Chase, Morgan Stanley, Citigroup and Bank of America. Those companies pledged to do so in advance of President Barack Obama's plan to stem the foreclosure crisis, which was launched last week.

Two states that contributing to the increase were Florida and New York, where temporary

bans on foreclosures ended.

But other states are moving to enact similar measures. On Wednesday the Michigan House approved legislation that would give homeowners facing foreclosure a 90-day reprieve. The legislation now goes to Michigan's Republican-led Senate, where its future is unclear.

While the number of foreclosures continue to soar nationwide, banks have held off listing properties for sale, Sharga said. There were around 700,000 such properties nationwide at the end of last year, making up a "shadow inventory" of unsold homes that could drag the housing crisis out even longer.

Nation

Obama defends pet projects and signs spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama, sounding weary of criticism over federal earmarks, defended Congress' pet projects Wednesday as he signed an "imperfect" \$410 billion measure with thousands of examples. But he said the spending does need tighter restraint and listed guidelines to do it.



Obama

Obama, accused of hypocrisy by Republicans for embracing billions of dollars of earmarks in the legislation, said they can be useful and noted that he has promised to

curb, not eliminate them.

On another potentially controversial matter, the president also issued a "signing statement" with the bill, saying several of its provisions raised constitutional concerns and would be taken merely as suggestions. He has criticized President George W. Bush for often using such statements to claim the right to ignore portions of new laws, and on Monday he said his administration wouldn't follow those issued by

Bush unless authorized by the new attorney general.

White House officials have accused Bush of using the statements to get around Congress in pursuing anti-terror tactics.

Obama signed the bill in private, unlike a number of recent signings that took place with fanfare, but he raised the issue of earmarks in public remarks playing down their scope and possible harm in the measure. They comprise about 1 percent of the spending package, which will keep the government running through September, he told reporters.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ala. gunman left list of those who wronged him

SAMSON, Ala. (AP)—The gunman who killed 10 people and committed suicide in a rampage across the Alabama countryside had struggled to keep a job and left behind a list of employers and co-workers he believed had wronged him, authorities said Wednesday. The list, found in his home, included a metals plant that had forced Michael McLendon to resign years ago. Also on the list was a sausage factory where he suddenly quit last week and a poultry plant that suspended his mother, District Attorney Gary McAleily said. McAleily was quoted as telling The Dothan Eagle that McLendon also listed people at the sausage factory who had complained about McLendon for such things as not wearing earplugs and slicing the meat too thin. "We found a list of people he worked with, people who had done him wrong," the district attorney said outside the charred house where the ram-

page began.


Octuplets mom says she's paying for new LA house

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Southern California mother of octuplets said in a video posted online Wednesday that she—not her parents—is paying for the four-bedroom, three-bath home where she plans to raise her brood. In the video posted on celebrity news Web site RadarOnline.com, Nadya Suleman disputed earlier remarks by the house's listing agent, who said her father was buying the home. Prudential Realty listing agent Mike Patel confirmed Wednesday that the home's title was made in the name of Ed Doud, who is Suleman's father. Patel also said the house was being bought, not leased. In the video, Suleman said she made the initial payment on the house and that she was leasing with an option to buy. Her parents, she said, "had nothing to do with it." Suleman's lawyer, Jeff Czech, did not return calls from The Associated

Press seeking clarification.

Alaska Gov. Palin's daughter, fiance break up

WASILLA, Alaska (AP)—Levi Johnston and Bristol Palin, the teenage daughter of Gov. Sarah Palin, have broken off their engagement, he said Wednesday, about 2 1/2 months after the couple had a baby. Johnston, 19, told The Associated Press that he and 18-year-old Bristol Palin mutually decided "a while ago" to end their relationship. He declined to elaborate as he stood outside his family's home in Wasilla, about 40 miles north of Anchorage. He also said some details of the breakup, rumors of which had been swirling on the Internet, were inaccurate. Bristol Palin said in a statement that she was devastated about a report on Star magazine's Web site that quoted Levi's sister, Mercede, as saying Bristol "makes it nearly impossible" to visit the teenagers' infant son, Tripp. The baby was born Dec. 27.



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**For a 40-TON AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT
Baggage Claim Area at the Arrival Building
of the Saipan International Airport**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to procure and install a 40-Ton Air-Conditioning Unit at the Baggage Claim Area of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposals should include procurement, installation and testing of the new unit as well as 1-year warranty, 1-year preventive maintenance services and 24-hour on-call services for all warranty items.

A walk through inspection will be conducted on **Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** in order to assess the area and determine equipment and materials needed for the installation. Attendance at this walkthrough is mandatory for any companies interested in submitting proposals. Prospective proposers will meet CPA staff at the Ports Police Central Office prior to the inspection to acquire security badges.


Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, March 27, 2009.**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in the proposals if determined by the Ports Authority to be in its best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: March 12, 2009



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**SAIPAN SEAPORT
PROJECT NO. CPA-SS-001-09**

REQUEST FOR INTEREST

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is requesting the attendance of all interested parties for certain renovation and replacement works to the seawater fire fighting piping system, to the CPA Seaport Administration Building, Ferry Ticket Booth and the pier area on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held for this project at **3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2009 in Saipan at the CPA Port of Saipan Conference Room** on the second floor. Prospective proposers are required to attend. All questions prior to the pre-proposal conference must be submitted in writing to Mr. Efrain F. Camacho, PE, CPA's Executive Director, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to **cpa.admin@pticom.com**. A scope of work will then be designed to form the basis for all proposals.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: March 9, 2009



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
PO Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 237-6500/01 Fax: (670) 234-5962

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**FOOD AND BEVERAGE CONCESSION
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting proposals from qualified firms and individuals to operate a food and beverage concession (currently the "Touch Down Cafe") at the Saipan International Terminal, Saipan International Airport. Interested firms and individuals are invited to submit proposals for food and beverage services to be offered to the public.

Proposal package may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, located at the Administrative Office of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport during regular business hours. Proposal package is available for \$50.00. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All proposals must be received by the Authority at its Administrative Office, located at the Saipan International Airport no later than Friday, on the 3rd day of April, 2009. In evaluating proposals the Authority will consider certain factors but not limited to financial capability, related business experience, food and beverage to be offered, and staffing.

The decision on the award will be made within a reasonable time (30 to 60 days) after the closing date. The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals in accordance with the Procurement Rules and Regulations of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Inquiries regarding this Request For Proposals may be addressed to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan MP 96950.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2009.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP 09-009

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **Construction of Generator House at various Head Start Centers on Saipan for the CNMI State Public School System (PSS)**. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-009" containing one (1) original and five (5) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **March 10, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 09-009, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and five (5) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

There will a pre-bid conference for interested vendors on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the PSS Conference/Lounge Room on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill on the island of Saipan. Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License. The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, extend the contract 2 or 3 times, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, P&S Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



Request for Proposal RFP 09-011

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **Procurement and Installations of Typhoon Shutters at various Head Start Centers on Saipan for the CNMI State Public School System (PSS)**. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-011" containing one (1) original and five (5) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **April 07, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 09-011, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and five (5) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

There will a pre-bid conference for interested vendors on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the PSS or BOE Conference/Lounge Room on the 3rd for 2nd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill on the island of Saipan. All interested contractors must register at the P&S Office and a minimal fee of \$3.00 will be assessed for the plan and the Scope of Work.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, extend the contract 2 or 3 times, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System. All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID IFB 09-010

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of **Bottled Water and Delivery Service**. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB 09-010" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **March 27, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB 09-010, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and one (1) copy). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, PSS Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, P&S Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP 09-012

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **Survey, Architectural and Engineering Design Services for Garapan Elementary School (GES) on Saipan for the CNMI State Public School System**. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-012" containing one (1) original and five (5) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **April 08, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 09-012, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and five (5) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

There will be a pre-bid conference for interested vendors on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the PSS or BOE Conference/Lounge Room on the 3rd for 2nd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill on the island of Saipan. All interested contractors must register at the P&S Office and get an authorization for Quick Print to pay and pick-up the Scope of Work and the Plans and will be assessed for the plan and the Scope of Work.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, and others, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System. All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, P&S Officer

World

Teen kills 15 in Germany before taking own life

WINNENDEN, Germany (AP)—A 17-year-old wielding a Beretta 9 mm pistol burst into classrooms at his former high school Wednesday and gunned down students—some of whom died with their pencils still in hand—in a rampage that ended with 15 dead before he took his own life, authorities said.

There was no immediate indication of motive, but the gunman's victims were primarily female: eight of nine students killed were girls, and all three teachers were women. Three men were killed later as the suspect, identified by police as Tim K., fled.

"I heard two shots and then

screaming," said a 15-year-old student who gave her name only as Betty. "At first I thought it was a joke, but then someone called 'Run, run!' and I saw students jumping out of the windows and took off running."

The gunman—dressed in all black—took students in the first classroom completely by surprise, evidenced by the morbid scene that awaited the first officers to arrive, said regional police director Ralf Michelfelder.

"Children were sitting at their tables, with pencils still in their hands, their heads fallen over on the table," he said. "Most of them had shots in their head—it must

have all happened in seconds."

The dark-haired teen, shown wearing glasses in pictures on German television, apparently took the weapon from his father's collection of 16 firearms along with a "multitude of ammunition," police said. His father was a member of the local gun club and kept the weapons locked away except for the pistol, which was kept in the bedroom.

Police said the suspect was a German teen who was a below-average student at the school of

about 1,000 pupils, but managed to graduate last year.

"He was lower than average, and he wasn't engaged in school events," Michelfelder said.

A sister of the suspect attends the school.

Police received an emergency call from the school at 9:33 a.m. The first officers responded about two minutes later, said Baden Wuerttemberg state interior minister Heribert Rech. They heard shots on the second floor and ran upstairs, catching

a glimpse of the suspect on a staircase, Rech said.

He fired a shot at the police

and then fled, killing his last victims in the school—two teachers—on his way out, Rech said.

WORLD BRIEFS

China demands end of US Navy surveillance

BEIJING (AP)—China's Defense Ministry has demanded that the U.S. Navy end surveillance missions off the country's southern coast following a weekend confrontation between an American vessel and Chinese ships. In its first public comment on the Sunday episode, the ministry repeated earlier statements from the Foreign Ministry that the unarmed U.S. ship was operating illegally inside China's exclusive economic zone when it was challenged by three Chinese government ships and two Chinese-flagged trawlers. "The Chinese side's carrying out of routine enforcement and safeguarding measures within its exclusive economic zone was entirely appropriate and legal," ministry spokesman Huang Xueping said in a statement faxed overnight to reporters. "We demand the United States respect our legal interests and security concerns, and take effective measures to

prevent a recurrence of such incidents," Huang said.

Report: NKorea to launch satellite April 4-8

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea told an international organization it will fire a satellite into space between April 4-8, a report said Thursday, giving a timeframe for a launch that neighboring governments suspect will test missile technology. South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported that North Korea has informed the International Maritime Organization of its early April schedule for the satellite launch, citing a source it did not identify. Separately, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said the country has informed the International Civil Aviation Organization, International Maritime Organization and others "of necessary information for the safe navigation of planes and ships" amid preparations for the launch.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the following:

One (1) Portable Pavement Striping Machine to the Tinian International Airport:

The equipment should include at a minimum:

- FRAME**
Electric Welded, reinforced, heavy duty ALL STEEL tubular construction.
- WHEELS**
Front – 3.00x5; Rear – 4.00x8; pneumatic tires; 5/8 and 1" ball and roller bearings.
- MATERIAL CONTAINER**
Electrically welded 17 gallon or more, 150 psi steel tank, 10" ASME lid assembly. May also be stainless steel.
- POWER**
Air cooled engine developing 12 HP or more. Must maintain constant traction up hill and down. Variable speed throttle provided. Electric starter, 15 amp alternator and 12 volt battery optional.
- COMPRESSOR**
Twin cylinder non-pulsating, 18.5 CFR, 50% air reserve, with unloader. Force feed lubrication to all bearings.
- AGITATION**
Paddle type.
- TRACTION**
Must be air-circulated, with new type drive rolls or positive drive.
- SPRAY GUNS**
Automatic, diaphragm operated, adjustable volume high speed types, square beginnings and endings, uniform application and perfect cross distribution, guns mounted on hinged side delivery on left side unless otherwise specified.
- LINE WIDTH**
Variable from 3" to 18" but regularly set for two 4" lines, 4" apart unless otherwise specified.
- GUIDE PLATES**
Air-curtains using exhaust gas to maintain keen-edged line.
- CONTROLS**
Each gun controlled by separate control valve plus master control valve controls for both guns simultaneously. Each gun is separately regulated by all-brass solvent-resisting regulators.
- GUIDE**
Adjustable, telescopic guide arm, suitable for chalk line or retracing with a 50" telescoping guide.
- CLEANER EQUIPMENT**
½ gallon automatic pressure cleaner mechanism with atomizing head. Flushes fluid lines and cleans spray head assembly of guns.
- BRAKE**
Manual with easy reach of operator's right hand to keep machine under constant control.
- AIR HOSE**
Twenty foot (20') air hose for stencil work.
- TRAILER**
Sturdy riding trailer for operator with platform of no less than 12" x 24", mounted on two 3.00x5 pneumatic tired ball bearing wheels with a track of 32", with standard foot brake.
- REQUIRED OPTIONAL ITEMS**
Intermittent skip line mechanism, paddle agitator, belt guard, transport trailer, 4" or 6" twin bead dispensers, hand gun assemblies, complete with hoses, right hand edge lining attachment, rotatable side delivery for curb painting, positive chain and sprocket drive with differential, air actuated clutch and hydraulic disc brakes, 18" airport side delivery, stainless steel tank and plumbing, electrical start engine and double tank for two color striping.
- DELIVERY**
MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

A pre-proposal conference will be scheduled and held only upon request by proposers. However, attendance is not mandatory.

Proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, second floor of the arrival building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, March 13, 2009.**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in the proposals if determined by the Ports Authority to be in its best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. For additional information, please contact the Executive Director at 237-6500.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: February 10, 2009



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370, SAIPAN, MP 96950

Head Start Policy Council Agenda

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a meeting on March 20, 2009 (Friday) from 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm at NMC Rota Room B2, Rota.

- Preliminary Matters**
 - Roll Call
 - Quorum
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes
 - February 17, 2009
- Monthly Reports**
 - Director
 - Managers
 - Finance
 - Capital Improvement Projects
 - Council Standing Committees
 - Personnel
 - Education
 - Executive
 - Finance
 - Public Relations
- New Business**
 - Action Items
 - Approvals:
 - Self Assessment
 - Revised Eligibility Point Worksheet
 - Finance Committee Recommendations
 - Personnel Committee Recommendations
- Executive Session**
- Next Meeting**
- Adjournment**

Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session.

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcomed to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Ms. Candace Quitugua at 664-3751.

/s/ Mr. Vinnie Sablan
Chairperson



Northern Marianas College Procurement & Property Management

Office P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu Website: www.nmcnet.edu

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP NO.: 09-002

NMC FACILITY MASTER PLAN

Northern Marianas College is soliciting sealed proposals for its Facility Master Plan.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, "Local Preference" as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is available to local vendors in this procurement. For Proposers located outside of the CNMI: You may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

Proposal Packages are due no later than 4:00 p.m., March 20, 2009 Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, BLDG L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, "Local Preference" as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is available to local vendors in this procurement. For Proposers located outside of the CNMI: You may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

Pre-proposal meeting: March 13, 2009 at 2:00PM
NMC Procurement Office, 2nd Floor, Bldg L
Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. Northern Marianas College reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

/s/ Anita C. Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/s/ Rogelio L. Madriaga
NMC, Chief Financial and
Admin. Officer



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP09-OPA-055

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 25, 2009 • TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"FINANCIAL AUDITS OF THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE'S CREDIT UNION FOR THE YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2008"

THE AUDIT GUIDELINES AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THIS AUDIT MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR'S MAIN OFFICE AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M., OR FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE, SAIPAN.

ALL INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. ROSS ZAPANTA, ANALYST MANAGER AT (670) 322-6481/2 OR BY FACSIMILE TO 322-7812.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERRED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ MICHAEL PAI
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES
CORPORATION'S [CUC] LEAC RATE

DOCKET 09-1

REVIEW OF CUC'S WATER AND
WASTEWATER RATES

DOCKET 09-2

PROPOSED CONFIDENTIALITY RULES

DOCKET 09-3

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On December 19, 2008, the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission [CPUC] established by regulatory order in Docket 09-1 a leveled energy adjustment clause [LEAC] by which it would set and adjust a semi-annual rate to enable CUC to recover its fuel and related expenses. By that order, CPUC established a LEAC rate of \$.22989 cents per kWh for the period January 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 and further directed that its regulatory consultant [Georgetown] recommend a LEAC rate, which would be set for the period April 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009. On March 6, 2009, Georgetown submitted a report, which is available for public inspection on the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's website, www.saipanchamber.com. Georgetown recommends that for the six month period commencing April 1, 2009, the current LEAC rate of \$.22989 cents per kWh be reduced to \$.19327 cents per kWh [a 16% reduction]. CUC has been directed on or before March 20, 2009 to respond to the Georgetown report.

By order dated December 19, 2008, CPUC established Docket 09-2 to review CUC's water and wastewater rates and related issues. Pursuant to this order, Georgetown has conducted a review and on March 6, 2009 submitted testimony to CPUC, which recommends that CUC's current water rate of \$25.80 per 10k gallons be increased to a rate in a range between \$43.23 to \$51.92 per 10k gallons and that its current wastewater rate of \$5.50 per 10k gallons be increased to a rate in a range between \$13.44 per 10k gallons to \$17.40 per 10k gallons. Georgetown submits that these increases are mandated by public law and by the impending Federal Stipulated Order in Federal District Court Civil Case 08-51 [USA v. CUC and CNMI]. This report is also available for public inspection on the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's website. CUC has been directed on or before March 20, 2009 to respond to the Georgetown report.

On December 19, 2008, CPUC established Docket 09-3 for the purpose of examining telecommunications regulatory issues. Within this proceeding, CPUC staff has proposed that CPUC adopt confidentiality rules to assure that proprietary information, which is submitted by regulated entities in regulatory proceedings will receive appropriate protection. These proposed rules are available for public inspection on the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's website. CPUC invites public comment on these proposed rules on or before March 27, 2009 either in writing delivered to the office of CPUC's general counsel, Anthony Long, Esq. in San Jose at Box 504970 Saipan MP, by electronic filing to gal@nmilaw.com or at the public hearing scheduled below.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CPUC will conduct a public hearing, which will commence at 1:00 p.m. on March 27, 2009 at the CNMI Senate Chamber to receive Georgetown's report and testimony in Dockets 09-1 and 09-2 and CUC's position regarding these filings and other regulatory matters. At this hearing, CPUC will welcome the public's attendance and comments at the conclusion of the hearing. Persons who desire to formally participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC § 8409(j) should on or before March 13, 2009 file with CPUC at the office of CPUC's general counsel, Anthony Long, Esq. in San Jose an application and offer of proof in accordance with § 8409(j) and CPUC Procedural Rule 11(c).

CPUC has directed that after the public hearing, its hearing examiner issue a report with recommendations including a proposed order in both dockets, which will be filed with CPUC on March 31, 2009 and will also be available for public inspection on the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's website. CPUC will deliberate on this report at a business meeting, which will be duly noticed and will be conducted at 5:00 p.m. on April 2, 2009 at the offices of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Further information about the public hearing and the public's right to participate may be obtained from CPUC's general counsel, Anthony Long, Esq. at 235-4802.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Fight in car over \$3 leads to fish tank attack

PORT RICHEY, Fla. (AP)—Authorities said a fight in a car over \$3 in gas money led to one passenger hitting another with a fish tank and then a beer bottle. The sheriff's office reported that an 18-year-old driver and 30-year-old passenger picked up their 26-year-old friend from a strip club on Monday night. When the driver asked for gas money, the man who had been picked up from the strip club refused to pay. A fight between the three friends quickly escalated, and authorities said the 26-year-old man grabbed a fish tank from the back seat and began hitting the passenger. The passenger then managed to wrestle a beer bottle away and break it over the 26-year-old's head. The driver eventually pulled over and called deputies. Both men were charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. They were being held on \$10,000 bail.

Pet store expects fish shipment, but gets corpse

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Employees of a Pennsylvania pet store expecting a shipment of tropical fish and salt water got a man's dead body instead. Mark

Arabia owns the Pets Plus store in northeast Philadelphia, where the mix-up was discovered Tuesday. He says he learned the body was that of a 65-year-old San Diego-area man who died of early onset Alzheimer's disease. The body was supposed to go to a research laboratory in Allentown, a 70-mile drive away. US Airways Inc. released a statement saying the air cargo problem was caused by a "verbal miscommunication between a delivery driver and the cargo representative." The Tempe, Ariz.-based airline said it's deeply sorry. The fish were shipped in three boxes. The corpse was shipped in a wooden coffin wrapped in cardboard. Arabia said the fish were left at the airport and probably died.

Police seize 1,200 pounds of pot in spinach cans

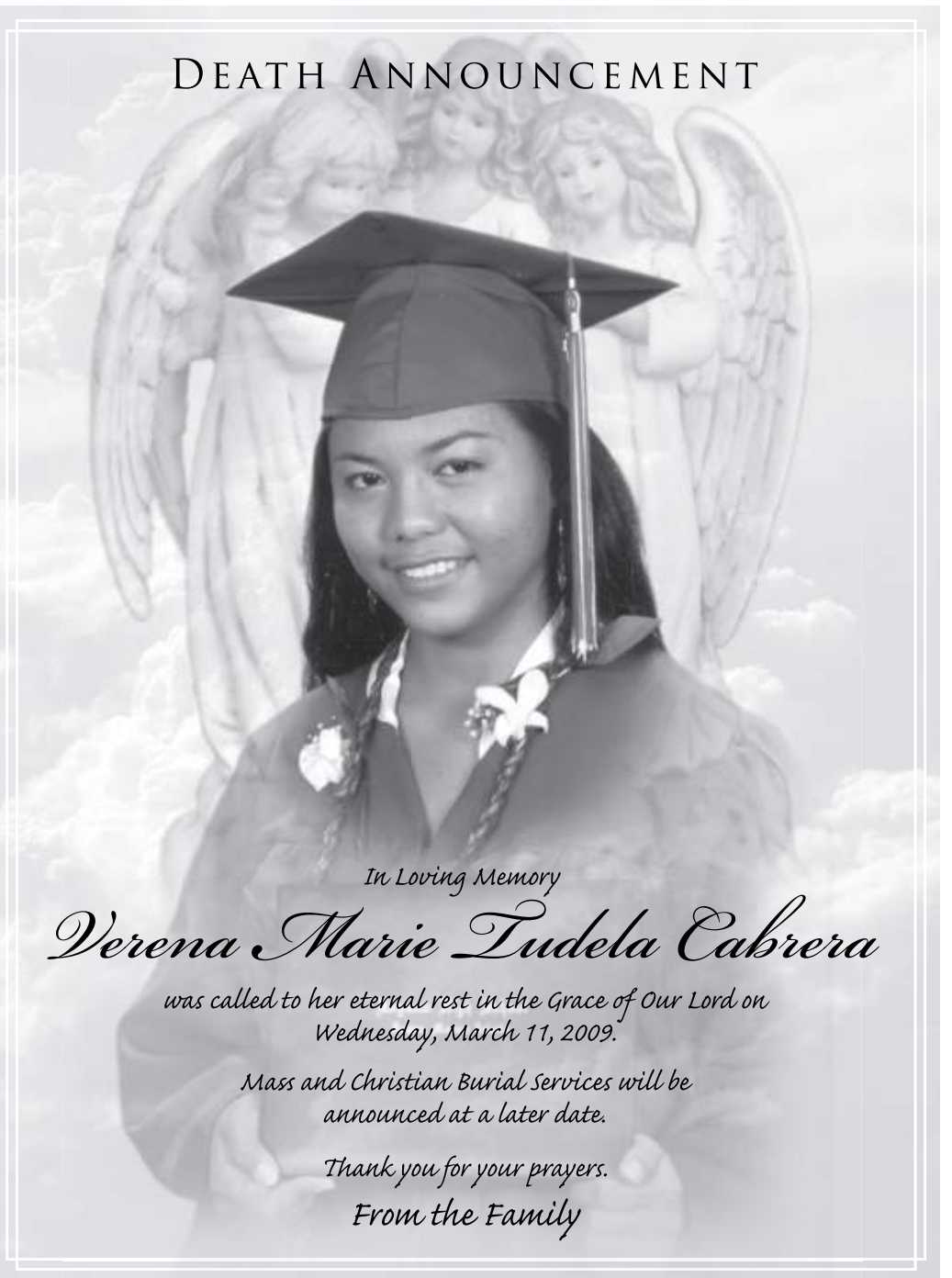
GALLUP, N.M. (AP)—Police with the New Mexico Motor Transportation Division found 1,200 pounds of pot packed in cans labeled as spinach during a stop at the Gallup port of entry. An inspector noticed that only a few of the cans were labeled and that the weight printed on the side of the can didn't match the actual weight. A closer look during last Friday's bust revealed the canned drugs, which were worth an es-

timated \$1.5 million. The four pallets of cans were being transported along with fresh produce. The 50-year-old truck driver said he was on his way from California to the East Coast. The driver and the pot were turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Yale student sues airline for \$1M over lost Xbox

CINCINNATI (AP)—A Yale University student from Ohio has filed a lawsuit seeking \$1 million from US Airways for a video game console he says was taken from his luggage. Twenty-one-year-old Jesse Maiman alleges that during a flight from New Haven, Conn., to Cincinnati in December, his Xbox 360 with a specialized hard drive disappeared from his luggage. Maiman says he got what he called "an unconscionable run-around" from the airline. He's asking \$1,700 for the loss of the gaming system and for the maximum damages allowable, or \$1 million. Maiman filed the suit Monday in Hamilton County Common Pleas Court. A US Airways spokeswoman said the airline was unaware of the suit but noted that the government limits liability for lost luggage to \$3,300 per bag.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT



In Loving Memory

Verena Marie Tudela Cabrera

was called to her eternal rest in the Grace of Our Lord on
Wednesday, March 11, 2009.

Mass and Christian Burial Services will be
announced at a later date.

Thank you for your prayers.
From the Family

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

† *Donicia Atalig Taitano*

better known as "Chichang" was called to her eternal rest on March 08, 2009 at the age of 66.

Predeceased By:

Father: Pedro T. Taitano
Brother: Jose A. Taitano
Sister: Sophia A. Taitano
Nephew: Woodward T. Castro

She will be lovingly missed by her Children/Spouse and (Grandchildren):

- ☞ Albert A. & Agnes Q. Taitano (Jovano, Marco & Daniel)
- ☞ Dexter T. & Marcia H. Apatang (Dexter Joe, Derald, Decia, Devin, Deann & Darcia)
- ☞ Alfred M. Apatang Jr. (Keanu I. Apatang)
- ☞ Janice T. Apatang & Darrel Bouie (Albert Jr. Fidel & Darion)
- ☞ Bernard T. Apatang & Valerie Dlc. Quitugua (Berlani, Bonita & Drey Ryan)
- ☞ Irene T. Apatang & Clarence M. Ayuyu (Preston Scott, Alton Cole & Vivica Dior)

Mother:

Rosa A. Taitano

Sisters & Brothers/Spouses:

† Jose A. & Rosario A. Taitano, Serafin & Janice Taitano, Marcy A. Taitano, Crispin & Marja Lee Taitano, Joaquin & Eleanor Taitano, Maria T. & Mel Uy, Flora T. & Ramon M. Castro, Carina T. & Paul Wachtler, Joaquina T. & Romeo Galinato, Abelina T. & Fidel S. Mendiola Jr.

Godchildren:

Mercedes H. Adriatico, Florencia B. Maravilla, Joseph C. Apatang, Marlinda Atalig

Also survived by numerous nieces, nephews & cousins.

Nightly rosary is offered at 7:30 pm at the San Francisco De Borja Church. Last respects will be on Monday, March 16, 2009, at San Francisco De Borja Church, Songsong Village, Rota from 7:00 am – 10:30 am. Mass of Christian Burial will follow immediately at 11:00 am. Interment services will follow at the San Jose Cemetery, Rota.

Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase'ginen I Familia.



Science & Technology

Apple's small new 4-gigabyte iPod shuffle can talk

SEATTLE (AP)—Apple Inc. unveiled a minuscule new iPod Shuffle on Wednesday that takes its “smaller is better” mantra to a whole new level.

The third-generation Shuffle, a slim aluminum rectangle less than 2 inches long, takes up about half as much space as the previous version even as it doubles music storage space to 4 gigabytes. To achieve such a tiny form, Apple had to remove most of the buttons from the body of the \$79 device and build them into the headphone cord instead.

“Smaller has tended to work very well for us,” said Greg Joswiak, a marketing vice president at Apple.

The trade-off for a sub-\$100 Shuffle always has been the lack

of a screen to visually navigate the music stored on the device. The first-generation Shuffle, which launched in 2005, could hold about 240 songs, arguably not enough to warrant a screen.

Now that the device can carry 1,000 songs, Apple has come up with a way for people to identify the music they're listening to or find songs they want. A new feature called VoiceOver can, at the push of a button, speak the song and artist name or rattle off the list of custom mixes—called playlists—that the owner has loaded onto the device.

Here's how it works: As you synchronize a new Shuffle using an updated version of iTunes, your PC or Mac looks at each track and playlist and creates

a small file of a computerized voice speaking the title, artist or playlist name.

When you tap a button on the headphones, the voice speaks the title and artist as the music plays. (If a song is in Spanish, Chinese or any one of 12 other languages, the software figures this out and speaks in the appropriate language.) When you hold down the headphone button, the device reads a list of your playlists, and you can pick one by tapping again.

It's not possible to scroll through all of the songs on the device to jump right to one favorite, unless you know it's at the start of a certain playlist.

The new Shuffle, which comes in silver or black aluminum with

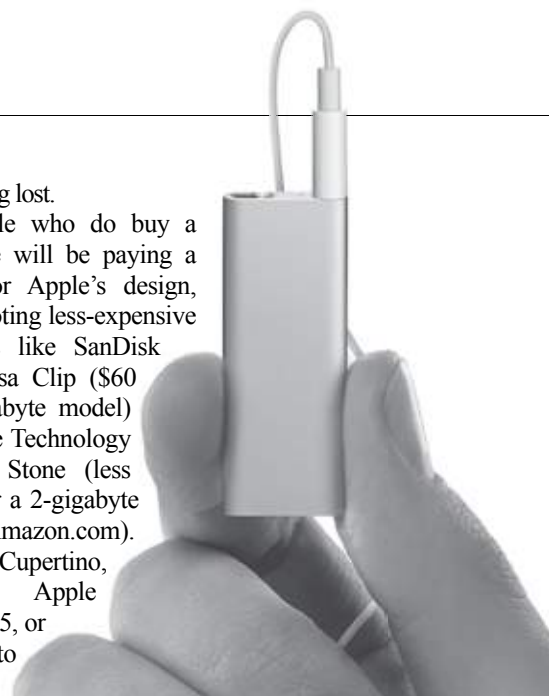
a shiny stainless steel clip, is set to go on sale Thursday. Joswiak said Apple's own earphones will be the only option for early buyers, but that other companies plan to make compatible headphones as well as adapters for regular headphones.

Ross Rubin, an analyst for market researcher NPD Group, said there's no such thing as “too small” for gadget-happy consumers as long as Apple stays focused on ergonomics and provides a way to secure the device and keep

it from getting lost.

But people who do buy a new Shuffle will be paying a premium for Apple's design, he added, noting less-expensive mini-models like SanDisk Corp.'s Sansa Clip (\$60 for a 4-gigabyte model) and Creative Technology Ltd.'s Zen Stone (less than \$50 for a 2-gigabyte version on Amazon.com).

Shares of Cupertino, Calif.-based Apple jumped \$4.05, or 4.6 percent, to \$92.68.



THE HELP FILE

By ROB PEGORARO
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

Q. I'd like to use an old Logitech webcam with Skype on my iBook. But this camera's system requirements don't mention Mac use. Is this possible?

A. Although most Mac laptops and desktops feature built-in webcams, users with older machines—or new Mac mini and Mac Pro desktops—have a couple of options if they want to plug in a cheap, third-party webcam.

If the non-Apple camera supports a standard called “USB Video Class,” and the Mac in question runs OS X 10.4 or newer and has been patched with

Apple's latest system updates, the camera should work on its own. Those versions of Apple's operating system automatically recognize USB webcams meeting this specification. How will you know which models do? The easiest way is to look for a “Certified for Windows Vista” logo on the camera's box.

With older webcams, try the free, open-source Macam. This download (webcam-osx.sourceforge.net) includes a standalone program and a QuickTime helper file that allows the Skype Internet-calling program to use a USB webcam. This software worked as advertised on a MacBook, where it instantly recognized

an old Logitech camera.

Q. What does it mean when somebody puts a number sign before a word in an online post?

A. That's called a hashtag, for the hash mark preceding the word (right, yet another name for the symbol we also call the number sign and the pound sign). People on sites like Twitter use these labels to make it easier for others to spot their postings.

For example, many people Twittering about this year's Consumer Electronics show used the hashtag #ces09 to identify their updates. You can see a list of popular hashtags at hashtags.org.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. William Sablan Pangelinan

also known as “Bill”

Was called to eternal rest on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at Guam Memorial Hospital, Guam.

Bill was born on August 15, 1958. He was 50 years old.

In his new life, he now joins his:

Daughter: †Rachael Dama Castro Pangelinan
Father-in-Law: †Gregorio Igibara Castro
Sisters-in-Law: †Danita T. Castro, †Leah Shippey

His memories will live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Diana Castro Pangelinan
Children: Gary Lee C. & Vanessa Pangelinan (Gavan Lee, Varyssa, Aleanah, Pingko)
Rachael C. & Frankie Aguon (William Lee, Damalyn, Damien, Deion, Danica)
Yvonne C. Pangelinan & Michael R. Sablan (DeVonne, Fionna)
Roxanne C. Pangelinan & Victor Jude (VJ) B. Concepcion

Parents: Rudolfo & Rosa Pangelinan

Brothers/Sisters and Spouses:

Renee & John Liggett Sr. & Children
Martin S. & Florence Pangelinan & Children
Cindy S. Pangelinan & Joseph Reyes & Children
Donald S. Pangelinan
Mae Pangelinan & Francisco Santos & Children
Rudy S. & Jenny Pangelinan
James S. Pangelinan & Son
Piding P. & Ernest Sablan & Children
Glenn S. Pangelinan & Abby Inabo & Children

Mother-in-Law: Susana Taitano Castro

Brothers/Sisters-in-Law and Spouses:

Cynthia & Antonio Mafnas & Children
Elizabeth T. Castro & Joaquin DiGuerrero & Children
Gregory & Gloria Castro & Children
Berthillia & Robert Dunn & Children
Patricia & Francisco Magofna & Children
Evelyn & William Fleming & Children
John & Victoria Mafnas & Children
Vincent & Hilma Castro & Children

Numerous Aunties, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews, and God Children

Schedule of Services:

Mass is being offered every evening at 6:00 pm at San Vicente Church beginning March 11, 2009. Nightly rosary follows immediately after the mass until March 18, 2009.

Wake and funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date.

Please join us in prayers.

Mrs. Diana Castro Pangelinan, Children, and Family.



DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory of the Late

Richard Ernest Miranda

Born to life on August 28, 1945

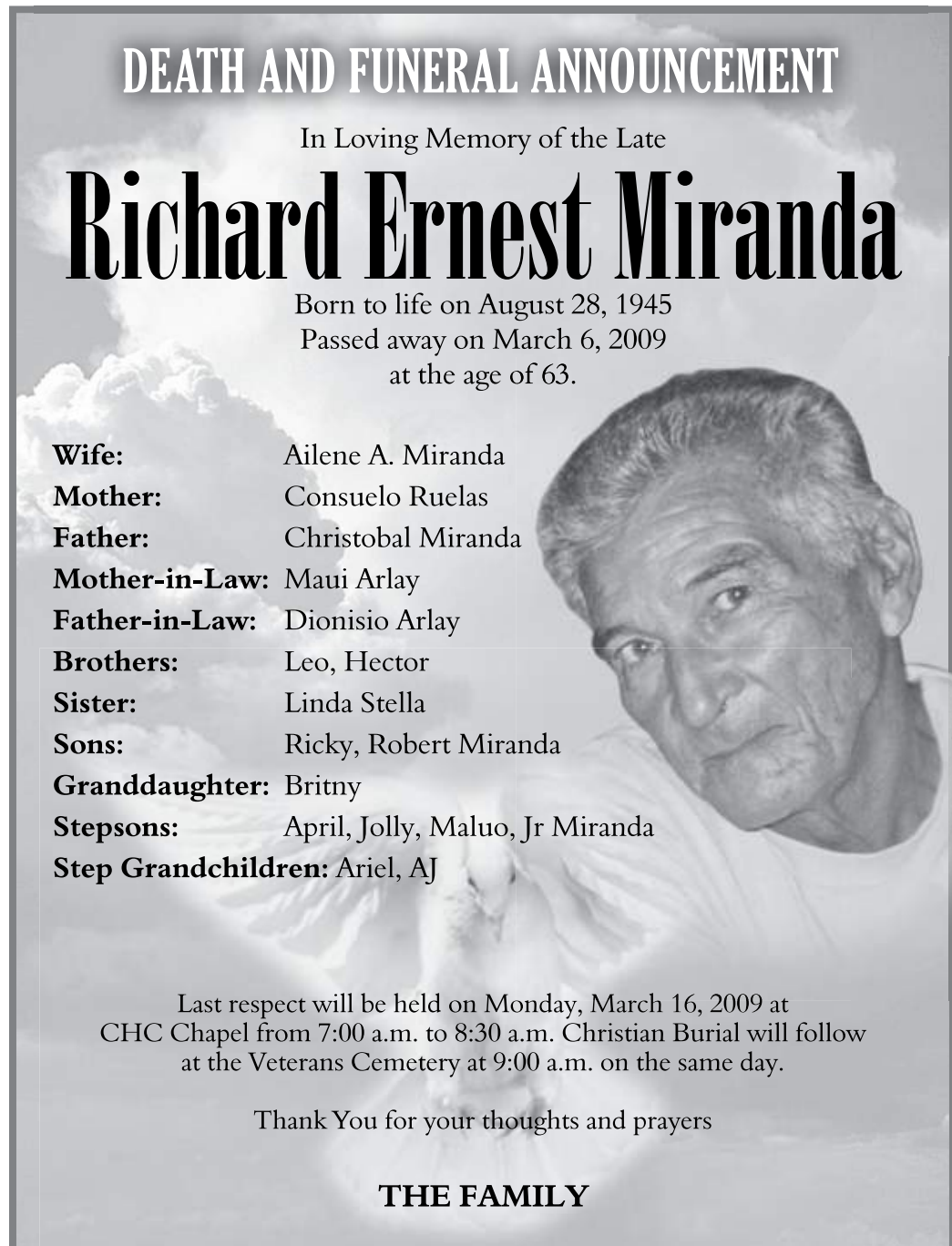
Passed away on March 6, 2009 at the age of 63.

Wife: Ailene A. Miranda
Mother: Consuelo Ruelas
Father: Christobal Miranda
Mother-in-Law: Maui Arlay
Father-in-Law: Dionisio Arlay
Brothers: Leo, Hector
Sister: Linda Stella
Sons: Ricky, Robert Miranda
Granddaughter: Britny
Stepsons: April, Jolly, Maluo, Jr Miranda
Step Grandchildren: Ariel, AJ

Last respect will be held on Monday, March 16, 2009 at CHC Chapel from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Christian Burial will follow at the Veterans Cemetery at 9:00 a.m. on the same day.

Thank You for your thoughts and prayers

THE FAMILY



Life & Style

Chris Brown's star falls; Rihanna's could, too

NEW YORK (AP)—More than a month after the assault that left Rihanna bloodied and bruised, the situation gets more grim for the once-brilliant career of Chris Brown, her boyfriend and alleged attacker.

Despite reports that the couple has reconciled—including reports of an apparent duet recording session—public animosity toward Brown, Billboard's artist of the year for 2008, seems to be growing.

Radio stations are dropping his music, and on Wednesday he voluntarily removed his name from the ballot of Nickelodeon's Kids' Choice Awards, for which he was twice nominated just before his Feb. 8 arrest for allegedly beating Rihanna.

"Unfortunately, the controversy surrounding the incident last month has shifted the focus from the music to whether he should be allowed to be among those nominated," a statement from his representatives read.

At 19, Brown is already a multiplatinum star who has not only dominated music, but made the leap to film in movies like "Stomp the Yard" and "This Christmas." He was a favorite of kids for his lithe voice, danceable beats and formidable dance skills; of young girls for his handsome looks; and of parents, because of his clean-cut image.

That winning combination helped him rack up album sales and awards: Billboard named him as its artist of the year for 2008. But figures show his overall audience, if not his fan base, has shrunk since his arrest. A leaked photo showing the battered face of Rihanna didn't help, and an affidavit released last week included details that highlighted the apparent brutality of the attack.

While Brown didn't have any new music out at the time of his arrest, his top hit "Forever" was still getting substantial radio play at the time. According to Billboard's Hot 100 Recurrent

Airplay chart, the song was slowly drifting down, and was at No. 14 before the arrest, for a radio audience of about 16 million people.

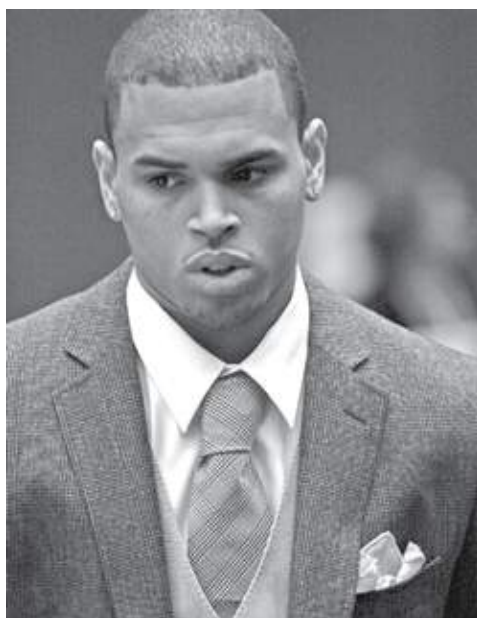
According to Billboard, right after the arrest, the song plummeted from 14 to 58, or an audience of about 9 million. It is now off the chart.

Even having Brown featured on a song may be a bad move: Jive Records label-mate T-Pain, who did a duet with Brown called "Freeze," is offering an alternative version to radio stations that deletes Brown, according to people inside the radio industry who requested anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the situation.

Bill Werde, the editor in chief for Billboard, said it may be too early to say whether the severe damage done to his career in the short term will affect Brown permanently.

"People's memories can be short, and I think sometimes an amazing hit can trump even people's expectations," he said Wednesday. "That said, Chris Brown is a guy who sort of developed his career around a very clean image, and an image that was safe for teens and tweens. ... When you have an artist whose career has been so predicated on keeping a clean image, this is a little bit of a tougher hurdle to get over."

Howard Bragman, veteran Hollywood publicist, damage-control specialist and author of the book "Where's My Fifteen Minutes," said Brown's youth may also be an asset to him in



Chris Brown is seen during his arraignment on charges of assault on Thursday March 5, 2009, at the Los Angeles County Criminal Courts in downtown Los Angeles.

the long run if he makes a sincere attempt at rehabilitation.

"I do think he can come back from this, I think if he made the mistakes people think he made," he said. "I think he is young enough and talented enough; eventually there are people who will forgive you."

Rihanna may endure a challenging road herself whenever she finally decides to relaunch her equally white-hot career. Already, she had seen her image transformed from pop's femme fatale to domestic violence victim whose decision to go back to her alleged attacker has been endlessly called into question.

"What I think the caution is she has is not to let this incident define her. And I think that's the biggest risk to her career," said Bragman.

An apparent reconciliation with Brown may only exacerbate that risk. Rap mogul Diddy confirmed he let the couple use his home to "talk about a situation they're in," and producer Polow da Don told the Los Angeles Times he was working with both stars on a duet (however, People.com, citing sources it

did not name, said the couple has not yet recorded a duet that was penned for them to be included on Brown's new album.)

"I think people are critical of her, saying, 'Oh my god, you're crazy, what are you doing?'" said Cori Murray, entertainment editor for Essence magazine. "Then there are people who are like ... they don't want to pass judgment on her because they don't know the whole situation."

While neither representative for the couple would comment on whether the couple was indeed reunited or recording together, that hasn't stopped others from weighing in on the situation.

Oprah Winfrey is devoting an

entire show Thursday "to all the Rihannas of the world" and on an episode last week, warned Rihanna: "Love doesn't hurt, and if a man hits you once, he will hit you again."

On Tuesday's episode of "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," the host grilled Diddy about reports that he had lent his house to the couple to reconcile, and expressed her outrage about it in an intense exchange with the rap mogul: "I was a huge fan's of Chris' ... but to hit a girl," DeGeneres said, " ... I don't want any girl out there thinking it's OK to go back to a guy who hit her."

Blogs have questioned everything from her mind-set to her sanity, but Werde said Rihanna

still has overwhelming support and sympathy.

Like Brown, Rihanna, 21, is between projects. But she still has singles in the Billboard's top 50—her solo hit "Disturbia" (co-written by Brown) and "Live Your Life" with T.I. And the multiplatinum selling singer was recently featured in a new ad by CoverGirl, for which she is a spokeswoman.

"I don't really expect Rihanna to face any hurdles here. It's pretty tragic what happened to her, and I'm certainly not about to try an alleged victim," Werde said. "I don't think that people are going to judge her harshly ... You can't blame the victim in any situation, especially in a domestic abuse situation."

Jasmine Murray, Jorge Nunez dismissed from 'Idol'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A nice guy—and a nice girl—finished last on "American Idol."

Jorge Nunez, the affable 20-year-old college student from Carolina, Puerto Rico, and Jasmine Murray, the melodious 16-year-old high school student from Starkville, Miss., were the first two finalists eliminated Wednesday from the popular Fox singing competition.

Murray, the judges' wild card pick who sang "I'll Be There" on Tuesday's Michael Jackson-themed performances show, pleased the panel with her vocal ability but disappointed it with a lack of personality. Meanwhile, Nunez was hammered for his lackluster song selection: Jackson's "Never Can Say Goodbye." The pair received

the lowest viewer votes.

Wednesday's episode began with the announcement of a new twist in the show: The judges will have a one-time-only opportunity to save a contestant from being eliminated until the top five finalists are selected. If the panel unanimously agrees, no singers will be eliminated that week, but two contestants will be sent packing the next week.

"The whole point of this competition is America votes for who they want to save," judge Simon Cowell said. "If someone happens to be at the bottom, and we think they deserve another chance, we're going to give them another chance."

"Idol" host Ryan Seacrest pointed to the early eliminations

of past contestants, such as Chris Daughtry and Jennifer Hudson, as the motivation for the new power. Hudson, who was booted sixth during the third season, went on to win an Oscar for her role in "Dream Girls." Daughtry, who placed fourth in the fifth season, and his band had 2007's top-selling album

After Murray and Nunez were revealed to have the lowest number of viewer votes, the judges decided not to save either from dismissal. The 11 finalists remaining in the competition are Adam Lambert, Alexis Grace, Allison Iraheta, Anoop Desai, Danny Gokey, Kris Allen, Lil Rounds, Matt Giraud, Megan Corkrey, Michael Sarver and Scott MacIntyre.

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Race To Witch Mountain

| | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Friday | 4:15 | 7:30 | 9:40 |
| Saturday | 1:10 | 4:15 | 7:30 |
| Sunday | 1:10 | 4:15 | 7:30 |
| Mon and Tues | 4:15 | 7:30 | |

Dwayne Johnson, Ciarán Hinds

Action, Adventure • Rated PG

Synopsis

For years, stories have circulated about a secret place in the middle of the Nevada desert, known for unexplained phenomena and strange sightings. It is called Witch Mountain, and when a Las Vegas cab driver finds two teens with supernatural powers in his cab, he suddenly finds himself in the middle of an adventure he can't explain.



The Last House On The Left

| | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Friday | 4:30 | 7:15 | 9:55 |
| Saturday | 1:25 | 4:30 | 7:15 |
| Sunday | 1:25 | 4:30 | 7:15 |
| Mon and Tues | 4:30 | 7:15 | |

Garret Dillahunt, Rhys Corio

Horror • Rated R

Synopsis

The night she arrives at the remote Collingwood lakehouse, Mari and her friend are kidnapped by a prison escapee and his crew. Terrified and left for dead, Mari's only hope is to make it back to parents John and Emma. Unfortunately, her attackers unknowingly seek shelter at the one place she could be safe. And when her family learns the horrifying story, they will make three strangers curse the day they came to the last house on the left.



Watchmen

| | | | |
|--------------|------|------|-------|
| Friday | 4:00 | 7:05 | 10:15 |
| Saturday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:05 |
| Sunday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:05 |
| Mon and Tues | 4:00 | 7:05 | |

Malin Akerman, Billy Crudup

Action, Adventure • Rated R

Synopsis

In the 1950s, a seemingly ordinary guy puts on a mask and a superhero costume and starts to fight crime. He is joined by a bunch of others who take up the same pursuit, until a law is passed that forces them to hang up their capes. When a few of the former crimefighters are mysteriously murdered, the remaining members set out to solve the crimes.



Love Me Again

| | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Friday | 4:25 | 7:20 | 9:50 |
| Saturday | 1:30 | 4:25 | 7:20 |
| Sunday | 1:30 | 4:25 | 7:20 |
| Mon and Tues | 4:25 | 7:20 | |

Piolo Pascual, Angel Locsin

Love, Romance, Drama • Rated PG



Slumdog Millionaire

| | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Friday | 4:20 | 7:00 | 9:45 |
| Saturday | 1:05 | 4:20 | 7:00 |
| Sunday | 1:05 | 4:20 | 7:00 |
| Mon and Tues | 4:20 | 7:00 | |

Dev Patel, Anil Kapoor

Comedy, Drama • Rated R



Pink Panther 2

| | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Friday | 4:10 | 7:10 | 9:30 |
| Saturday | 1:15 | 4:10 | 7:10 |
| Sunday | 1:15 | 4:10 | 7:10 |
| Mon and Tues | 4:10 | 7:10 | |

Steve Martin, Andy Garcia

Comedy, Mystery • Rated PG



The Uninvited

| | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Friday | 4:05 | 7:25 | 9:35 |
| Saturday | 1:20 | 4:05 | 7:25 |
| Sunday | 1:20 | 4:05 | 7:25 |
| Mon and Tues | 4:05 | 7:25 | |

Elizabeth Banks, David Strathairn

Horror, Remake • Rated PG 13

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Pregnant girl fears family consequence of telling truth

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I was sexually abused by my sister's boyfriend, "Teddy," three months ago. He is five years older than I am, and now I am pregnant.

I don't want to tell Teddy or my family because I am afraid of the consequences—especially because he and my sister are getting married in three months. I don't want to ruin their marriage, but I can't keep this a secret much longer. I am starting to show.

Please help. I don't know what to do because Teddy is a respectable person and I know they won't believe me if I tell the truth.



Dear Abby

PREGNANT SISTER

DEAR SISTER: The first thing you must do is accept the fact that "respectable" men do not have sex—coerced or otherwise—with their fiancée's sister or any other woman, for that matter. For your own sake and that of your family, you must tell your parents what happened. If they are skeptical at first, assure them that a paternity test will prove that you are telling the truth.

If the sex was forced, "respectable Teddy" is guilty of rape. Even if you were willing, depending on your age, he may have committed statutory rape. Consider this: If your sister knew about this, would she still want to marry this heel? She HAS to be told the truth so she can make an informed decision.

DEAR ABBY: When I was still working and invited someone to join my wife and me for dinner, I always assumed I would pay because I was the one who did the inviting. Now that we're retired, we would like to suggest getting together with other couples, but it can get costly paying for four people.

Saying, "Let's go Dutch," sounds tacky. Is there an acceptable way to invite friends out and let them know we should each pay our own expenses?

ON A BUDGET IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR ON A BUDGET: The way this is usually handled is the couple who does the inviting pays for the dinner, and the guests reciprocate by picking up the tab for the next one. Alternatively, when the check arrives at the end of the meal, the couples, by mutual consent, split it.

Because your circumstances have changed, but the expectations may not have, the subject should be raised at the time the date is arranged by saying, "Because I'm retired now, I can't treat you the way I'd like—but we'd love to see you." If they are real friends, they'll be glad to see you, too—and the fact they are paying for their own food won't stop them.

DEAR ABBY: My wife often returns home late from work. I am not worried about where she is or what she's doing, but we have had numerous arguments about the common courtesy of calling if she knows she's going to be late.

I say if she will be more than a few minutes past the expected time, she should call or text me. She says that I know where she is, so it shouldn't be necessary. What say you, Abby?

HAD IT IN HAWAII

DEAR HAD IT: Your wife's actions show a lack of consideration for your feelings. If she knows she will be late, she should contact you so you won't be stuck sitting around with your blood sugar levels sinking, and you can arrange to grab a snack or some dinner. And by the way, if she doesn't show up within 30 minutes of the expected time, nothing prevents you from calling her.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Promoter adds more Michael Jackson dates in London

LONDON (AP)—As Michael Jackson once said: Don't stop till you get enough.

Concert promoters on Wednesday more than doubled Jackson's summer run of concerts in London after advance tickets sold out within hours of going on sale.

AEG Live said an advance allotment of half the tickets for the 10 shows in July sold out soon after going on sale. Eighteen concerts have been added into September, and more shows are possible.

Ticket-seller Ticketmaster apologized for problems experienced by fans after its computer system crashed. Managing director Chris Edmonds said the glitches were the result of "an unprecedented level of demand."

Tickets, priced between 50 pounds and 75 pounds (\$70 and \$105) are currently on sale to buyers who registered online. Half the tickets for each show have been held back and

go on sale to the general public Friday morning.

The 50-year-old King of Pop has said the shows at the 20,000-capacity O2 Arena in south London will be his last in the British capital.

Jackson has sold more than 750 million albums and won 13 Grammys, but has not staged a major tour since 1997 or released an album of new material since 2001.

Jackson has appeared in public infrequently since being acquitted of child molestation in California in 2005, and he has struggled to pay his debts. Last year, he was forced to give up the deed to Neverland, his 2,500-acre (1,000-hectare) ranch and miniature amusement park in California.

The London shows are entitled "This is It," and Jackson said they would be his swan song—although AEG said the gigs could be part of a bigger, final world tour.



AP
US singer Michael Jackson punches the air after announcing that he is set to play ten live concerts at the London O2 Arena in July, which he announced at a press conference at the London O2 Arena, Thursday, March 5, 2009.

Judge orders rapper 'C-Murder' to remain jailed

GRETNNA, La. (AP)—A judge decided Wednesday that Corey Miller—who gained fame as rapper C-Murder—will remain in jail until his second-degree murder trial because he broke the rules of his house arrest.

State District Judge Hans Liljeberg said he was puzzled by reports that Corey Miller, who has been on house arrest for three years, had left his grandmother's house for a few minutes at a time on several occasions. But he said he did not have that problem with hundreds of others he oversees.

"I don't think it's terribly unjust for the defendant to await trial across the street," Liljeberg said in ordering Miller back to jail and doubling his bond to \$1

million. Miller's attorney, Ron Rakosky, would not say whether Miller will pay the higher bond.

Miller, dressed in an orange jumpsuit and shackled at the wrists and ankles, was surrounded by deputies and taken from the courtroom after the ruling. He is scheduled for

trial April 20 in the death of Steve Thomas, a 16-year-old who was killed during a 2002 brawl at a nightclub in Harvey. As a condition of his original \$500,000 bond, Miller was prohibited from leaving his grandmother's home.

Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Release date scheduled for Ted Kennedy's memoir

NEW YORK (AP)—Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's memoir is scheduled to come out sooner than originally planned—in the fall.

The book's editor, Jonathan Karp of the Twelve imprint at the Hachette Book Group USA, noted the earlier release Wednesday during the annual meeting of the Association of

American Publishers. Twelve spokesman Cary Goldstein said the book, titled "True Compass," would be listed in the publisher's fall catalog, out next month.

Kennedy, 77, was diagnosed with brain cancer last year, raising questions about the book's completion. Goldstein declined to say how

much of the manuscript has been completed. "True Compass," for which the Massachusetts Democrat reportedly received at least \$8 million, is expected to provide a rare high-level account of the Kennedy family. Kennedy's slain brothers, President John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy, didn't write memoirs.

as well as 75 percent of her son's private school tuition Heche's film credits include "Wag the Dog," "John Q" and "Donnie Brasco." Her publicist did not immediately return an after-hours call seeking comment.

Jack White announces new band, new CD

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—No one can accuse Jack White of being lazy. The rocker is already a member of The White Stripes and The Raconteurs, and now White says he's formed a third band, The Dead Weather. White announced the project Wednesday in Nashville. He says The Dead Weather's debut album, "Horehound," will be released in June on his Third Man record label. Besides White, the new group includes Alison Mosshart of The Kills, Dean Fertita of Queens of the Stone Age and Jack Lawrence of The Greenhornes. Both Fertita and Lawrence perform with White in The Raconteurs. No word yet on whether the band will tour.

It's a boy for Anne Heche and beau James Tupper

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's a boy, again, for Anne Heche. People magazine reports that the 39-year-old actress and her boyfriend, actor James Tupper, welcomed son Atlas Heche Tupper over the weekend. The couple met on the set of ABC's "Men in Trees" and began dating in 2007. Heche also has a 7-year-old son, Homer, from her marriage to cameraman Coleman Laffoon. Though they separated in 2006, their divorce was finalized just this week. Heche agreed to pay \$3,700 in monthly child support,

Sesame Workshop announces layoffs

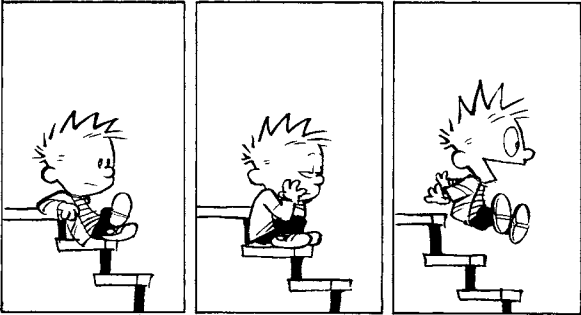
NEW YORK (AP)—Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit producer of "Sesame Street" and other kids' programs, says it's cutting

Ex-football star, actor Bosworth charged with DUI

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Football player-turned-actor Brian

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

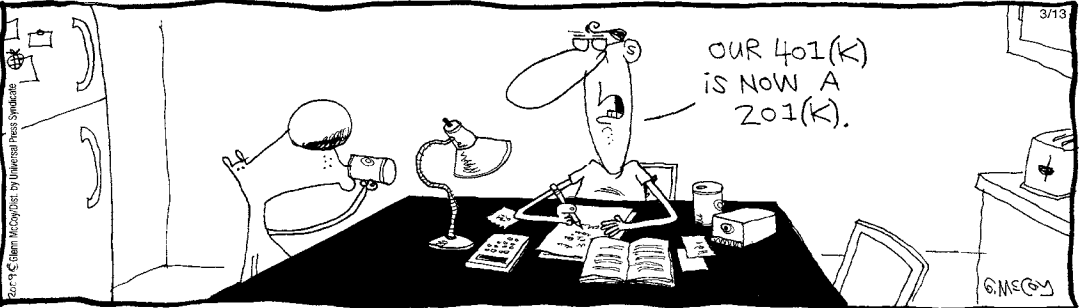


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



ACROSS

1 Occupation

4 Having a Y chromo-some

8 Invitation notation

12 Be below par

13 Leading man

14 Gardener, at times

15 Toronto team

17 Cosmonaut

18 Furry sci-fi critter

19 NFL Hall-of-Famer Hank

20 Thread

22 Leave a lasting impression

24 Blood-hound's clue

25 Mix up

29 Ultra-modernist

30 Wise lawgiver

31 Shelter

32 Subtract

34 Twofold

35 Shade

36 Muscular

37 Run — of (violate)

40 Singer Campbell

41 Deposited

42 In song, it "saw me standing alone"

46 Ticket price?

47 Traditional tales

48 Bill

49 Clumsy fleet

50 "— be surprised"

51 List-ending abbr.

DOWN

1 Poke

2 Lubricant

3 Car dealer's reference guide

4 Army rank

5 Aleutian island

6 Ballad

7 Type squares

8 Tempo

9 Acerbic

10 Miles of movies

11 Prudish

16 Basin accessory

19 Read bar codes

20 Typist's choice

21 Notion

22 Showy display

23 Helen's home

25 Scattered, as seed

26 Noted jazz label

27 Image on Canada's flag

28 Slithery

30 Go

33 Piano pieces

34 Consider a cut

37 — Romeo

38 Equitable

39 Sty cry

40 Expert

42 Journalist Nellie

43 Privy

44 Feedbag tidbit

45 Leno's home

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterdays answer 3-13

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Adam Clayton, 49; Dana Delany, 53; William H. Macy, 59; Neil Sedaka, 70

Happy Birthday: Emotional issues concerning your past connections and partnerships will surface. You must deal with these matters if you want to move forward emotionally, professionally and financially. There will be a reawakening of old dreams, hopes and wishes. Seize the opportunity to work with someone you regard highly. Your numbers are 3, 7, 18, 24, 38, 41, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotions will be difficult to control and it will be vital that you do your best to keep the peace. Far more will be accomplished if you are willing to compromise. Love will evolve if you get involved in social events.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Toe the line and do what's asked of you if you don't want to end up looking bad. You will have to talk your way out of a sticky situation if you have been meddling or have let a secret be revealed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Whether it is a relationship, a project, a new budget or a diet or health regime you are trying to incorporate into your life, now is a great time to start. Work toward anything that leads to greater profits, higher position or recognition for your talent.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stand your ground and refuse to let someone push you around or upset you. Don't expect to agree with the people you are dealing

with personally, socially or emotionally. Focus on work, getting ahead and doing your own thing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Plan an event at your place and you will enhance your chance of getting the financial backing you need. Love is in the stars and traveling will ensure that you meet someone who interests you on many different levels.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Talks, group initiatives and getting together with people who are working toward the same goals will be enlightening. Your input may lead to a partnership. Progressive action will draw attention, personally and professionally.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your ability to visualize what you want and to express it vividly to others will enhance your chance of achieving your goals. You can barter with ease and feel comfortable making promises that you know you can keep.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You have a lot to take care of and, if you falter, you will be faced with difficult emotional issues. Be aware that someone who is dependent on you is likely to make demands. Accommodate others as best you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You are ready to have some fun, so let your imagination take over. You will impress everyone with your natural talent and ability to take on new tasks with confidence. A love relationship will take on a new flavor.

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): It's worth taking a closer look at all your relationships and deciding who is on your team and who isn't. Don't allow someone to dump his or her responsibilities on you when you have plenty to do already.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you believe you can do something, so will everyone else. Take a fresh look at old ideas and you will find ways to implement them with current projects to come up with a winning combination. Romance is in the stars.

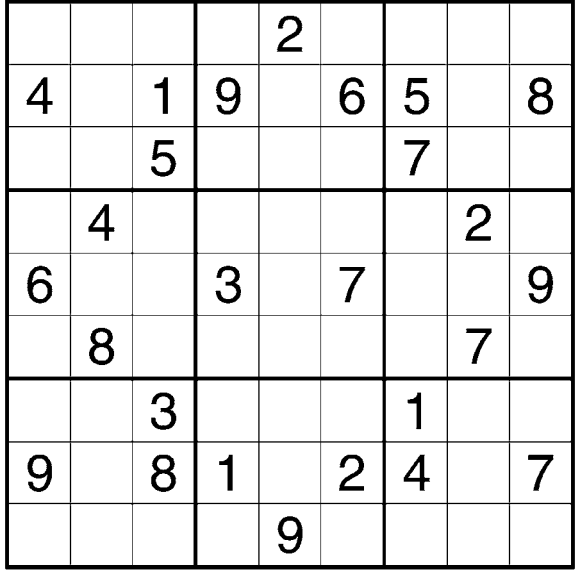
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You have talents that can pull in some cash if you market your services. Don't sell yourself short. Check into the rules and regulations that are applicable to what you want to do.

Birthday Baby: You are a humanitarian with great vision and the ability to pull things together and make them happen. You are willing to sacrifice for a good cause. You are sensitive and caring.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 3/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 9 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 4 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| 5 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| 3 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| 7 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| 2 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| 6 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/12

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MAGNIFYING GLASSES Solution: 9 letters

T A F R E S N E L E R E H P S
S C R A F T S M E N N S A Y E
N O A E D N A T S I E I A P C
G N M T P E G U H M R A D O
I V E E N O C T I E H E H N
S E S P T O G T S H S R A E V
E X E U F N C U P E E N M V E
D K Y O E P R A N K D O G I N
E C E L O F R S A L U L F E T
N O C W A G I M E N A T O W I
T L E C O T H O T S G I C O O
I R E T I C I D S H O U A R N
S E O V T V R I N G S G L L R A
T H E A T E R F O P T I C A L
P S W S T U D Y I N G E S N R

© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 3/13

Angular, Close, Contact, Conventional, Convex, Craftsmen, Dentist, Designs, Eyes, Focal, Focus, Frames, Fresnel, Glass, Handle, Huge, Italy, Length, Loupe, Modify, Mount, Narrow, Opera, Optical, Pair, Photographer, Power, Rays, Ring, Sensitive, Shape, Sherlock, Sight, Sphere, Stand, Studying, Surface, Theater, Thin, Times, User, View, Watchmaker

Yesterday's Answer: Sister

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just \$4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Press Syndicate. Include \$2 postage for the first book order, \$1 per book for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1150 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64105 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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CLASSIFIED ADS



CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

| ADS (7DAYS) | COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • 3-Liner | \$25 |
| • 5-Liner | \$35 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | \$45 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | \$55 |

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Making a website for you

If you need to create a website, please call Pacific Weekly Chinese newspaper office at 285-4469 or email us: pacificweekly@hotmail.com

English/Chinese/Japanese/Korean Language are available.

The price is \$300 up.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF SAIPAN,) CIVIL
Plaintiff,) ACTION
) NO.
- v -) 02-0007

MARIAN A. CARAYOAN,) SIXTH
Defendants.) AMENDED
) NOTICE
) OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to and Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 10, 2002, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 008 T 042, containing an area of 867 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands & Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 008 T 01 dated January 7, 1998, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 88-161, the description therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 17, 2009, at the hour of 11:30 am., at the Superior Court, San Jose Village, Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 2nd day of February 2009.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

REVOLVING RESTAURANT

360

GREAT VIEWS. INCREDIBLE FOOD

Revolving Restaurant 360 is in need of:

1 Wait Staff – Japanese language speaking is helpful. Experience with bartending and mixing drinks is an advantage.

For local or IR hiring only. Please call 234-1610. Bring your resume with picture at the 3rd floor of Marianas Business Plaza from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday.

Thomas E. Clifford
Attorney at Law
2nd Floor, Alexander Bldg., Garapan
P.O. box 506514
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 235-8846
Fax. (670) 235-8848

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the) FCD-AD
Adoption of) CIVIL
QUINTON PIERRE) ACTION
MENDIOLA SANTOS,) NO.
) 09-0143

Minor Child,) PETITION
) FOR
SHIRLEY ANN) ADOPTION
MENDIOLA SANTOS) REPORT OF
and PAUL FEJERAN) EXPENDITURES
SANTOS,) AND
) NOTICE
) OF HEARING

Petitioners.)

The hearing on the above-referenced adoption matter is set for the 16th day of April, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205 before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

/s/ Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court
Commonwealth Superior Court

Looking for Used Motorcycle or Scooter 125CC & UP

Please call 235-0083 or 285-4469 Mr. Yang

WHATZIT Solution:
Jump on the bandwagon

AUTOMOTIVE

For Sale: 2005 Ford Van, Passenger 15, for only \$13,500.00. Contact person: Mr. Park. Tel. # 234-5700-01

NOVENA TO

St. Jude

O holy St. Jude, Apostle & Martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near in Kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke Your special patronage in time of need, To You I have recourse from the depth of my heart & humbly begged great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and most urgent petition. In return, I promise to make Your name known and cause You to be invoked.

Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Mary's and Glory Be's. Publication must be promised. St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid, Amen. This Novena has never been known to fail. I have had my request granted. Thank you St. Jude.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

BANDWAG

Find today's solution in this section

DRUNK DRIVING

Over the limit. Under arrest.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper

235-NEWS

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007

Guard files sex harassment suit vs principal. PAGE 3

2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PAGE 5

There is still hope for nonimmigrant status

joins Micronesia


RELAYED NEWS

OPINION METER

With what you know of the CUC situation, do you support the regulation of new regulations?



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Division of Labor
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0907 or 0911 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0992



PUBLIC NOTICE TO APPEAR FOR INVESTIGATION


The following Non-resident worker and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Enforcement Section, 2nd Floor, Afetnas Building, San Antonio Saipan. This notice will serve as a “Proof of Service for the notice to appear for investigation”. For information, please contact Investigator Jeffrey T. Camacho at 236-0900.

| Employee | Employer | Case Number | Date/Time |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Jin, Song Lin | Yum, Moon Jeong | CAC#09-069-02 | 3/13/09 @ 9 AM |
| 2. Bederio, Sonny | Thomasa T. Ada | CAC#09-034-01 | 3/13/09 @ 9 AM |
| 3. Gu, Xia #284968 | Pang Hong Cabrera | CAC#09-006-01 | 3/20/09 @ 9 AM |
| 4. He, Yuxiang | Md. Abu B.S. Munshi | CAC#09-008-01 | 3/20/09 @ 9 AM |


Failure to appear at your scheduled investigation shall be grounds for default and may result in the referral of affected worker to the Division of Immigration for their action and sanction against the employer.

Date this 2nd day of March 2009.

/s/ Jeffrey T. Camacho



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Division of Labor
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0907 or 0911 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0992



PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING


The following Non-resident worker and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office, 2nd Floor, Afetnas Building, San Antonio Saipan for a hearing to address the matter of the complaint. This notice will serve as a “Proof of Service of this Notice of Hearing”. For information, please contact Investigator Jeffrey T. Camacho at 236-0965.

| Employee | Employer | Case Number | Date/Time |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Valarie Joy Mapalo | Lillian D. Camacho | CAC#09-060-02 | 4/02/09 @ 1:30 pm |

Failure to appear at your scheduled hearing shall be grounds for default and may result in the referral of affected worker to the Division of Immigration for their action and sanction against the employer.

Date this 9th day of March 2009.

/s/ Jeffrey T. Camacho
Director of Labor/Designee



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the following:

**One (1) Tractor Mower
For the Tinian International Airport:**

The equipment should include at a minimum:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. STRUCTURE | Protective Rollover Structure with open cab and mechanical seat suspension system |
| 2. MOWER DECK | To include a fifteen foot (15') mower deck – mower deck to be winged type with three separate blades. Wings must be capable of being adjusted individually |
| 3. ROTATING BEACON | FAA approved colored rotating beacon mounted on roof |
| 4. RADIO | Mounted air-to-ground radio with headphones and microphone, mounted directly under roof of cab or encased for weather proofing |
| 5. COLOR | Airport yellow in color |
| 6. ENGINE | 80 horsepower or more |
| 7. TRANSMISSION | Standard |
| 8. FUEL | Diesel |
| 9. CYLINDERS | 4 |
| 10. CHASSIS | 4x2 2WD |
| 11. TIRES | FRONT - 7.50-16 REAR – 16.9-30 |
| 12. MANUALS | Technical and Parts Manuals for both tractor and mower must be provided |
| 13. DELIVERY | MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT |

A pre-proposal conference will be scheduled and held only upon request by proposers. However, attendance is not mandatory.

Proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, second floor of the arrival building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, March 20, 2009.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in the proposals if determined by the Ports Authority to be in its best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. For additional information, please contact the Executive Director at 237-6500.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: February 19, 2009



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950



**INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW09-IFB-010**

**SUPPLY, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING FOR THE CAPITOL HILL
BASEBALLFIELD, SAIPAN**

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Supply, Delivery, and Installation of Additional Outdoor Lighting for the Capitol Hill Baseball Field, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after March 13, 2009 at DPW Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor-Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of one Hundred Dollars (**US\$100.00**) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further **Amended by Public Law 15-118** and must be submitted with the BID if preference is claimed.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on March 31, 2009, 1:00 p.m. local time at the project site located at Capitol Hill Baseball Field, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on April 09, 2009 to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd floor-Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW09-IFB-010"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time April 03, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time April 03, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 03, 2009, and must be received no later than April 20, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 1 :00 p.m. local time, April 23, 2009. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 1:00 p.m. local time, on April 13,2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (**120**) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at one hundred dollars (**US\$100.00**) per working days for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Capital Improvement Program - Office of the Governor
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2402 • Fax.: (670) 664-2408

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR PROVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES
RFQ09-GOV-062**

Garapan Tourist District Storm Water Conceptual Study

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez through the Office of Capital Improvement (collectively, “Commonwealth”) are soliciting Statements of Qualifications for the provision of civil engineering services for the conceptual examination of alternative methods to resolve the Garapan Tourist District Storm Water Issues.

The Commonwealth seeks engineering services to identify and analyze the various alternatives for control of pollutants being discharged onto the beaches from the Garapan Tourist District. Analysis should begin with a review of existing data and previous analysis and build upon this base. Specifically, previous work entitled “Field Investigations and Conceptual Alternative Development” by the engineering firm of Winzler & Kelly (November 2004) should be consulted. Additional documentation should be reviewed in order to quantify and qualify storm water in the Garapan Tourist District. Information gained from examination of existing data should then be used to identify and provide conceptual examination of alternatives for treatment and control of storm water in this area. This examination should identify estimated costs, permitting requirements, and treatment and control parameters. This information will be used by the Commonwealth to make decisions on selection of design. Specific details concerning project requirements are identified in the scope of work.

Interested parties may pick up the applicable scope of work and submittal requirements (“Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements”) at the Office of Capital Improvement 1356 Mednilla Ave. Capitol Hill, Saipan, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4: 30 p.m. - Monday through Friday, except holidays). Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the submittal requirements identified in the Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements. A pre-proposal conference is schedule for this RFQ on March 18, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the Office of Procurement & Supply.

Selection of individuals for the provision of services shall be guided by the Commonwealth Department of Finance Division of Procurement & Supply, Procurement Regulations § 7070-30.3-305. Five copies of qualifications should be submitted to the Commonwealth Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 in a sealed envelope marked “Garapan Tourist District Storm Water Study Qualifications, RFQ09-GOV-062”

Qualifications must be received prior to noon of April 13, 2009 (“Closing Date”) from individuals or firms residing within the Commonwealth. Individuals or firms residing outside the Commonwealth may receive an additional five (5) calendar days from the Closing Date for receipt of their qualifications, upon filing a notice of intent to submit qualifications (“Notice of Intent”) with the Division of Procurement & Supply by 11:00 a.m. local time April 6, 2009. Notice of Intent may be transmitted in any of the following forms: direct delivery; transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515; or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com; however, the individual or firm transmitting a Notice of Intent bears all risk of proper functioning of equipment. For proposer's located outside the CNMI who have filed a Notice of Intent, all required documents must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Services or the official government postal service of the foreign country no later than the Closing Date and must be received no later than five calendar days after the Closing Date.

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following factors:

| | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Proposed technical approach | 35% |
| 2. Prior experience in storm water design | 20% |
| 3. References | 10% |
| 4. Interview | 35% |

Interviews will be conducted with the individuals who are determined to have the most appropriate qualifications for the needs of the Commonwealth.

This project is funded through grants from the United States Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) with local matching funds. Contract award is contingent upon approval from DOI.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the government. All submitted documents shall become the property of the Commonwealth.

Venezuela beats US to win Group C



TORONTO (AP)—Henry Blanco homered and made a key throw in the ninth inning as Venezuela beat the United States 5-3 on Wednesday night to win Group C at the World Baseball Classic.

Gregor Blanco added three hits for Venezuela, which avenged a 15-6 loss to the Americans on Sunday night. Both teams are headed to the second round of the tournament in Miami, where the U.S. will open against Group D winner Puerto Rico (3-0) on Saturday night.

Venezuela will face a surprising Netherlands team earlier in the day.

Chris Iannetta hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning but Team USA couldn't finish the comeback in the ninth.

Jimmy Rollins walked and Derek Jeter reached on a one-out error by third baseman Luis Maza. With clean-up hitter Kevin Youkilis at the plate, the United States tried a double steal and Blanco's strong throw cut down Jeter—the trail runner—at second base.

Francisco Rodriguez wrapped up the save by striking out Youkilis.

Victor Zambrano allowed one run and three hits in 3 2-3 innings to earn the win before a crowd of 12,358. He walked two and struck out one.

Venezuela's bullpen was tagged for 13 runs over five innings in Sunday's rout by the U.S. but redeemed itself in this one, with five relievers combining to allow two runs in six innings of work.

Baltimore right-hander Jeremy Guthrie was the loser, giving up four runs and seven hits in two-plus innings. He walked two and struck out two.

Venezuela opened the scoring in the third when Henry Blanco, a veteran backup catcher now with the San Di-



Venezuela's closing pitcher Francisco Rodriguez, left, celebrates with catcher Henry Blanco after striking out United States' Kevin Youkilis during ninth-inning World Baseball Classic group C game action, to secure a 5-3 victory, in Toronto, on Wednesday, March 11, 2009.

ego Padres, led off with a homer to left off Ted Lilly, the U.S. starter.

Team USA tied it in the fourth. Jeter singled, went to second on Adam Dunn's walk and scored on Ryan Braun's double down the first-base line.

Venezuela reclaimed the lead in the fifth against Guthrie. Henry Blanco doubled and scored on Gregor Blanco's triple to center.

Guthrie was tagged for two more in the sixth. Miguel Cabrera led off with a

double, Magglio Ordonez walked and was replaced by pinch-runner Endy Chavez, and Marco Scutaro drove in both with a single.

Venezuela chased Guthrie in the seventh when Cesar Izturis doubled, went to third on Gregor Blanco's single and scored on a base hit by Melvin Mora.

Lilly allowed one run and three hits in three innings, walked none and struck out two.

Mexico 16, Australia 1

At Mexico City, Karim Garcia went 4-for-4 with two homers and Mexico eliminated Australia from the World Baseball Classic with a 6-inning, 16-1 victory Wednesday night.

Garcia's three-run homer in the sixth capped a four-run inning and the mercy rule meant Mexico wouldn't need to go the full nine to move on to the second round.

Mexico will face Cuba on Thursday for the first place of Group B. Both teams are headed for San Diego, where Japan and South Korea await in the next round.

Edgar Gonzalez had three RBIs for Mexico, and Jorge Campillo pitched four shutout innings to earn the victory.

Mexico lost its first game of the WBC to Australia, 17-7.

Australia starter David Welch allowed four runs and four hits and three innings.

Puerto Rico 5, Netherlands 0

At San Juan, Puerto Rico, Alex Rios hit an RBI triple and Puerto Rico beat the Netherlands 5-0 on Wednesday to finish undefeated in the first round of the World Baseball Classic.

Next up, an enticing matchup with the United States.

Carlos Beltran, Ivan Rodriguez and Geovany Soto each drove in a run for Puerto Rico (3-0), which won Group D and will face the U.S. in their second-round opener Saturday night in Miami.

Team USA was the runner-up in Group C, won by Venezuela.

It was the second win for Puerto Rico over the scrappy Dutch squad, which earlier eliminated the star-laden Dominican Republic with a pair of stunning upsets. The Netherlands (2-2) also is headed to the second round in Miami, where it will play Venezuela on Saturday.

Jonathan Sanchez earned the win, allowing two hits in four strong innings. The San Francisco Giants lefty struck out four and walked one. Seven relievers combined to finish the shutout.

Girardi: Alex Rodriguez doing well



TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Alex Rodriguez is pleased with his recovery from arthroscopic hip surgery.

"He left me a message," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said Wednesday. "He sounded good. Said: 'I'm doing well.' Good to hear from him."

Girardi exchanged telephone messages with the star third baseman on Tuesday night.

Rodriguez had arthroscopic surgery Monday to repair torn cartilage in his right hip, and doctors said they found nothing that would keep him from returning to the lineup in May.

Rodriguez will need a more extensive operation after the season, but should be ready for spring training 2010. He is expected to spend a few weeks rehabilitating in Colorado, then will return to the Yankees' spring training complex in Florida when he is ready for baseball drills.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman talked with the three-time AL MVP Tuesday night and found him in "good spirits." Rodriguez has been riding a stationary bike and during range of motion exercises.

In other news, Yankees closer Mariano Rivera threw 30 pitches in his first spring training batting practice session. He will throw BP again Saturday and then will likely make his first exhibi-

tion appearance early next week.

Rivera had surgery on the AC joint in his right shoulder last Oct. 7.

"All I have to do is get more fine pitching," Rivera said. "The shoulder

feels good. I'm happy with it. It's getting stronger every time I throw. It feels better and better."

Rivera threw at about 90 percent. The right-hander has "no doubt" he

will be ready for opening day.

"We are right on track," he said.

Catcher Jorge Posada, limited to designated hitter as he rehabilitates from right shoulder surgery last July

30, remains on target to play behind the plate on Sunday. Posada threw to the bases on a back field before being the DH in the Yankees' 7-4 loss to Detroit in Lakeland.

"It's the best I've seen so far," Girardi said. "We're still shooting for March 15."

Posada was to throw again on Friday.

AG Holder on sidelines in Clemens steroid probe

WASHINGTON (AP)—Attorney General Eric Holder has recused himself from any role in deciding whether to charge Roger Clemens with lying to Congress about steroids.

A federal grand jury in Washington is investigating whether the star pitcher lied when he told a congressional committee a year ago that he didn't use illegal performance-enhancing substances.

Clemens' former trainer, Brian McNamee, testified before the same committee and said he repeatedly injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone, known as HGH.

Holder "has always been recused" from the Clemens investigation, Justice Dept. spokesman Matt Miller said Wednesday. Before becoming attorney general, Holder worked at the firm Covington and Burling LLC, which had Clemens as a client.

As Clemens dealt with the congressional inquiry, one of the lawyers working for him was another prominent Covington attorney, Lanny Breuer. Breuer has since been nominated to become a top deputy of Holder's at the Justice Department, overseeing the criminal division.

Breuer is also expected to recuse himself



from the Clemens matter.

Holder's recusal was first reported in Wednesday's editions of the New York Daily News.

The recusals by two of the most senior people in the Justice Department is unlikely to affect the Clemens case, which is being handed by the U.S. attorney's office in Washington and the local FBI field office.

It is not unusual for lawyers joining the government to take no part in matters in which they were directly involved during their previous job.

For Holder, the Clemens recusal marks the second high-profile matter he is avoiding, after taking himself out of discussions about the department's efforts to learn the identities of tens of thousands of U.S. account-holders with the Swiss bank UBS who may be dodging the IRS.

While in private practice, Holder did work for UBS in an unrelated case.

Former baseball pitcher Roger Clemens watches the Houston Rockets play the Cleveland Cavaliers in an NBA basketball game Thursday, Feb. 26, 2009, in Houston.

AP

Wade does it again, lifts Heat past Celtics



MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade scored 32 points, including the game-sealing 3-pointer with 34 seconds left, and the Miami Heat held on to beat the Boston Celtics 107-99 on Wednesday night.

Jamario Moon scored 13 points and grabbed eight rebounds for Miami, which stayed 1 1/2 games behind Atlanta for fourth place in the Eastern Conference. Jermaine O'Neal scored 12 for the Heat.

Ray Allen hit his first six shots and finished with 27 for Boston, which fell two games behind Cleveland for the East's best record. Leon Powe had 23 points and 13 rebounds for the Celtics, who have lost two straight.

Lakers 102, Rockets 96
At Houston, Kobe Bryant scored 18 of his 37 points in the fourth quarter, winning a contentious duel with Ron Artest, and Los Angeles ended Houston's 12-game, home-court winning streak.

Pau Gasol scored 20 points and Josh Powell added 17 for the Lakers, who overcame the absence of Lamar Odom to snap a three-game road losing streak. Odom, the Lakers' second-leading rebounder, served a one-game suspension for leaving the bench during an altercation in Monday's loss to Portland.

Reserve Von Wafer scored 20 points for the Rockets, who've lost all three meetings with the

Lakers this season.

Hawks 100, Jazz 93

At Atlanta, Joe Johnson scored 31 points and Josh Smith had 22 points and 12 rebounds to help Atlanta end Utah's 12-game winning streak.

Flip Murray scored 11 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter for the Hawks, who have won three straight. Smith ended the scoring with a pair of free throws with 24 seconds remaining.

Deron Williams led the Jazz with 20 points and nine assists.

Magic 107, Bulls 79

At Orlando, Fla. (AP)—Tony Battie had 18 points and eight rebounds, and Orlando got a big boost from the bench to clinch a playoff spot by beating Chicago.

J.J. Redick had 13 points, and Marcin Gortat added 13 points and 15 rebounds in reserve for the Magic, who have won five of their last six games and moved closer to taking another Southeast Division title.

John Salmons had 18 points and eight rebounds, and Brad Miller added 11 points for Chicago, which shot a mere 31.4 percent from the floor and had 18 turnovers.

Hornets 109, Wizards 98

At Washington, taking over the game when he wanted to, Chris Paul compiled his NBA-leading sixth triple-double with 30 points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds, steering New Orleans over Washington.

Eastern Conference-worst Washington began the second half with a one-point lead, before Paul compiled 14 points, six assists and four rebounds in the third quarter alone to help the Hornets outscore the Wizards 40-22 in the period.

Antawn Jamison led Washington with 25 points and 10 rebounds.

Mavericks 93, Trail Blazers 89

At Portland, Ore., Dirk Nowitzki had 29 points and 10 rebounds, and Jason Terry scored 24 points as Dallas beat Portland.

Nowitzki hit 13 of 24 shots, including two during the final 1:03 as Portland attempted to rally from a 13-point second-half deficit.

Dallas (40-25) has won seven of its past nine games.

Nuggets 112, Thunder 99

At Denver, Renaldo Balkman had 14 points and 14 rebounds for his first double-double since Feb. 1, 2008, when he was with the New York Knicks, and Denver snapped a three-game losing streak.

Carmelo Anthony led seven Nuggets in double figures with 22 points, and Linas Kleiza 20 for Denver, which won for just the fourth time in 12 games.

Jeff Green's 19 points led the Thunder, who had won five of six since losing leading scorer Kevin Durant to an ankle injury. Earl Watson added 18 points for Oklahoma City.

Knicks 116, Pistons 111, OT

At Auburn Hills, Mich., reserve Nate Robinson scored 30 points to help New York rally past Detroit.

Antonio McDyess had 21 points and a career-high 22 rebounds—Detroit's first 20-20 game in over 11 years—but it wasn't enough to overcome the absence of Rasheed Wallace (calf) and Allen Iverson (back).

David Lee had 16 points and 18 rebounds for the Knicks, who trailed by 10 points after three quarters before finishing strong for their second victory in two nights during a crucial road trip for their playoff hopes.

Warriors 116, Nets 112

At Oakland, Calif., Stephen Jackson scored 29 points, Jamal Crawford scored 15 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter, and Golden State rallied from a 14-point, second-half deficit to beat New Jersey.

The Warriors, bolstered by the return of Monta Ellis and Andris Biedrins to the starting lineup, snapped a three-game losing streak. Ellis, who missed the last seven games, had 19 points and Biedrins, who missed the past five, contributed 10 points and 13 rebounds. Corey Maggette added 18 points.

Devin Harris had 31 points and 12 assists for the Nets, who have lost five of six on the road and missed a chance to move into eighth place in the Eastern Conference. Vince Carter and

Brook Lopez each scored 14 and Trenton Hassell had 13.

76ers 115, Raptors 106

At Philadelphia, Thaddeus Young scored a career-high 29 points, Samuel Dalembert snapped out of his recent slump, and Philadelphia handed Toronto its sixth straight loss.

Dalembert, who entered the night with only three blocks over the last four games, recorded his 11th double-double of the season with a season-high 19 points, 13 rebounds and four blocked shots. Young was 13-for-20 from the field as Philadelphia (31-31) got back to .500.

Chris Bosh was limited to 17 points for Toronto after consecutive 30-point outings.

Timberwolves 104, Grizzlies 79

At Minneapolis, rookie Kevin Love had 19 points, 11 rebounds and a career-high four assists against the team that traded away his draft rights, and Minnesota snapped a 10-game losing streak.

Mike Miller had 18 points and 11 rebounds and Ryan Gomes scored 25 for the Wolves, who also won at home for the first time since Jan. 25, a span of 11 games.

O.J. Mayo had 18 quiet points and Mike Conley Jr. had 17 for the lethargic Grizzlies, who trailed by 21 points after one quarter, were outrebounded 48-28 and lost for the 11th time in 12 games.

L.T. happy
he's still a Bolt

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Chargers president Dean Spanos seemed to have the best perspective on the LaDainian Tomlinson saga.

"The alternative was just unthinkable. He belongs in San Diego," Spanos said after the Chargers and Tomlinson agreed to a reworked three-year deal late Tuesday.

L.T. feels the same way. That's because the alternative, of course, would have been for the star running back to be released had the sides not reached a deal. Even as talks dragged on and speculation mounted that the 2006 NFL MVP might be finished in San Diego, Tomlinson never envisioned joining another team.

"I still maintained the belief that I would be a Charger," Tomlinson said at a news conference Wednesday. "They drafted me here and I've been here for eight years and loved every minute of it, and I just couldn't see myself putting on another uniform."

"That Charger uniform, that 21, with the bolt on the side of my helmet, that's pretty special," said Tomlinson, who was dressed in a black T-shirt and tan shorts. "You really can't replace that. So I'm just happy to be putting that helmet on again."

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Hyatt, Tinian Dynasty top foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



CNMI Men's Nationals standout Jericho Cruz exploded for 30 points to lead Hyatt Regency Saipan to a 97-86 win over Saipan World Resort in the 2009 Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Invitational Basketball League Monday night at the Tinian Municipal Gymnasium.

Cruz drilled 10 of his total points in the payoff period, as he and Chris Arreza helped Hyatt come back from a 65-67 deficit at the end of the third quarter. Hyatt outgunned World Resort in the fourth canto, 32-19, with Cruz and Arreza combining for 18 points.

The game was close in the first three quarters before Hyatt pulled away in the fourth. After the first 10 minutes of the match, Hyatt and World Resort were tied, 23-all. Hyatt took the lead

at halftime, 43-40, with Bernard Aquino nailing 13 of his 17 points in the second period.

But World Resort grabbed the upperhand in the third quarter with Dennis Vinas and Banjo Basila teaming up for 17 of World Resort's 27 points in that canto.

In the fourth quarter, Vinas was the lone player to score more than two field goals for World Resort, while Arreza, Cruz, and Edmark Mendoza joined forces in giving Hyatt an 11-point win.

Mendoza finished with 18

points, making 14 in the second half, while Arreza had 15.

Basila led World Resort's losing cause with 23 markers.

In the second game, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino outlasted Aqua Resort Club in overtime, 95-94.

Charlie Fernandez scored eight of Tinian Dynasty's 12 points in overtime to give his team its second win in three games. Noel Sabordo made Tinian's other four points in the extension period.

Tinian led by nine, 68-59,

going into the fourth quarter, after a 35-point explosion in the third canto. Aqua was held to 18 points in the third, but managed to send the game in overtime after outgunning Tinian in the fourth, 24-15.

Aqua eventually ran out of steam in the extra five minutes of the game with only Kelvin Fitial making more than one field goal in overtime.

First Game

Hyatt 97 – Cruz 30, Men-

doza 18, Aquino 17, Arreza 15, Magno 10, Libuw 4, Mateo 3.

World Resort 86 – Basila 23, Vinas 20, Bernardo 19, Abuel 13, Caruana 3, Gayo 2, Hamoy 2, Ramos 2, Wabinga 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-all, 43-40, 65-67, 97-86

Second Game

Tinian Dynasty 95 – Fernandez 25, Ri. Reyes 24, Sabordo 18, Manalo 12, Ramirez 8, RJ Reyes 5, Advincula 3.

Aqua 94 – Gapor 20, Fitial 19, Johannes 17, Camacho 14, Mi. Ahas 9, Ruluked 7, Mc. Ahas 6, Estolas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-16, 33-41, 68-59, 83-all, 95-94.

Kiddie beach volleyball caps Marianas Cup



Following a full weekend of jaw-dropping pro-am volleyball action that featured an elite cast of players, the 17th Annual Marianas Cup Beach Volleyball Festival culminates with the smaller version this Sunday, March 15, at the Pacific Islands Club sand courts.

The Kids' Marianas Cup will showcase future local beach volleyball stars, who have joined the clinic conducted by no less than the pros including Olympic gold medalist Phil Dalhausser.

The tournament is set from 8:30am to 4pm with the co-ed teams composed of four players, 10 to 15 years old.

Organizers said that each team must have at least have woman player.

Entry fee is \$5 per participant that includes a free PIC Water Park Pass.

Last week, Dalhausser along with pros Paul Baxter, Shimpei Aoki, Yasuo Nakaya, Ji Youn Jung, Mi Hwa Shin, Su Min Jun, and Kyung Soo Shin conducted the Free Kids' Clinic at the PIC.

Some 100 kids came out to learn some basic skills of the game from the pros.

These include passing, bumping, setting, and serving.

Baxter led the group for a short jog around the courts,

stopping around the corners to change the footing from knee-lifts to side steps to backward-facing runs.

The students were then divided into groups and worked on basic skills such as the bump (forearms straight, faced up with both hands clasped out in front) as the initial task. They later transitioned to sets where Dalhausser cautioned them to "never let the ball spin" and to "reach high."

After repeated rounds, the participants learned how to serve, both underhand and overhead.

The kids' clinic last March 5 was followed by the exhibition game among the men and women professionals from the U.S., Japan, and Korea on March 6, which were all special side events of the tournament proper on March 7-8.

Baxter and amateur partner Hugo Dooner, a banker from San Diego California, ruled the 17th season of the Marianas Cup, known as the longest standing beach volleyball event in Micronesia.

It was Baxter's third consecutive title, while Dooner won his second since winning it first in 1994 alongside his former partner Tyce Mister.

Mister settled for runner-up this time with Dalhausser.

Dalhausser and Mister lost twice to the Baxter-Dooner tandem in the winners' bracket, 21-19, and in the championship, 21-18.

Yoko Miki and Chie took the women's title for the second straight year by beating the pair of Italy's Federica Tonon and Daniela Gitelli, (21-15).

Gitelli saw action in the Beijing 2008 Olympics.

Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association expressed thanks to this year's sponsors.

PIC Saipan donated over \$50,000 in complimentary room nights and meals for the pros, media and return winners in addition to staff, equipment and venue usage.

The other sponsors who made this international event possible include: Aon Insurance, Aqua Resort Club, Burger & Comer, Chong's Corporation, Delta Management Corporation, Glooay Mai Thai Spa, Gregg Elliott Artworks, Elite Printing, Hertz, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Island Apparel, IT&E, KSPN2, LISS, Marianas Eye Institute, Marianas Medical Center, Mariana Resort & Spa, Marianas Trekking, Marianas Visitors Authority, Microl Corp., Miller Lite, Monster, No Ka Oi, Northwest Airlines, Pacific Development, Inc., Pacific Eagle Enterprises,

into our training sessions. We practice seven times a week and since August, Kensuke never missed a practice," Hiro said.

"He joined the open division, racing against Rezne and Kai [Staal], not to win a high point award, but to challenge his competitors and himself and break records," the Tsunami Saipan coach added.

Kaito Yanai also made it to the books last weekend after setting a new mark in the boys' 9-10 age group 100m butterfly event. The Garapan Elementary School student clocked 1:28.68, passing the 16-year record of Dean Palacios (1:28.89/March 12, 1993).

Yanai's record received a double A time in the US stan-

dard time list. A double A time is equivalent to 89 percent of the NRT.

Hiro said Yanai is only nine years old and the former is confident that the latter can break a couple of records this year and next year.

"He will be able to break the 50m butterfly record before his 11th birthday," Hiro said.

Meanwhile, Hiro was proud of the performance of all Tsunami Saipan swimmers.

"Everyone practiced hard for this meet and they did their best in every race," said Hiro, adding that Tsunami Saipan's next tournament will be in Guam in May.

"We expect to have a strong showing in the Guam Championships," he said.

The weight classes are bantamweight (100-130 lbs.), featherweight (131-140 lbs.), super lightweight (141-150

lbs.), lightweight (151-160 lbs.), welterweight (161-180 lbs.), middleweight (181-200 lbs.), and heavyweight (200



Participants of the beach volleyball clinic held last week at the Pacific Islands Club sand courts pose with professional players led by 2008 Beijing Olympic gold medalist Phil Dalhausser.

Paradise Island Chiropractic, Pepsi/Gatorade, PIC Guam, Rainbow Color, Saipan Grand Hotel, Seafix Inc., Shell

Marianas, Star Sands Plaza, Stars & Stripes, Law Offices of Stephen J. Nutting, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino,

Topnotch, Traders Insurance, Triple J Wholesale, and WDI Saipan (Tony Roma's & Capricciosa's). (PR)

NMBF meeting tonight



The Northern Marianas Badminton Federation will be holding a general membership meeting tonight at 6:30pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Details of an upcoming tourna-

ment, policies on the usage of the gym, and other important matters will be discussed at the meeting.

NMBF has scheduled its season-opening tournament later this month.

All members are encouraged to attend the meeting. (PR)

DIAMOND

From Page 36

5-5 record for solo fourth place in the team standings.

The Runnin' Rebels are still in the cellar with a 2-9 slate.

In the first game, Quichocho recovered from a 14-26 first quarter deficit, as Sonny Lerio waxed hot from downtown in the next three quarters to lift the team to come-from-behind win.

Lerio fired eight triples, including two in the fourth quarter. He nailed nine of Quichocho's 22 points in the payoff canto.

Quichocho began its comeback in the second period, outscoring the Ol' Aces 38-18, to turn a 14-26 deficit to a 52-45 halftime lead. Quichocho hung on to the lead in the third period, 69-65, as Lerio continued to make his outside shots and Bart Demapan also found his mark.

Lerio finished with a game-

high 33 points for Quichocho, which ended the regular season with a 5-7 record.

The Ol' Aces dropped to a 6-4 mark.

First Game

Quichocho 91 – Lerio 33, Cadagat 16, Demapan 14, Mendoza 12, Itaas 6, Capalad 5, Tagle 4, Umali 2.

Ol' Aces 82 – Pelisaman 32, Rangamar 16, Renguul 16, Tudela 6, Iginoef 6, P. Camacho 4, Omar 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-26, 52-45, 69-65, 91-82.

Second Game

Diamond 81 – Esdreton 17, Muleta 14, Berline 10, Joyner 9, Peredo 7, Camacho 7, Brostrom 4, Dayrit 2, Talania 2, Fernandez 2.

Runnin' Rebels 74 – Teregeyo 16, Norita 15, Tumaquip 13, L. Rangamar 10, Coldeen 10, Kenty 6, Iguel 2, Ogunoro 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-19, 41-46, 61-60, 81-74.

Tickets are available at the Boarderline, 670 Rocksteady Shop, Hannam Market, Mobil Kagman, and Trench Tech Gym.

KENSUKE

From Page 36

time surpassed the US four As time standard (5:36.29)

A four As time is the highest level in the National Age Group Times progressions. It represents a level equal to 97 percent of the National Top 16 Reportable Time. NRT or T16 times represent a level that a swimmer must surpass to submit his/her name for consideration on the annual Top 16 list, which contains the annual rankings in the long and short course and is published in *Swimming World* magazine.

"This impressive time is a result of all the efforts he puts

THE SHREDDAR

From Page 36

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

| Atlantic Division | | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| x-Boston | 49 | 16 | .754 | — |
| Philadelphia | 31 | 31 | .500 | 16 1/2 |
| New Jersey | 28 | 35 | .444 | 20 |
| New York | 27 | 37 | .422 | 21 1/2 |
| Toronto | 23 | 42 | .354 | 26 |

| Central Division | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| x-Cleveland | 50 | 13 | .794 | — |
| Detroit | 32 | 31 | .508 | 18 |
| Milwaukee | 30 | 37 | .448 | 22 |
| Chicago | 29 | 36 | .446 | 22 |
| Indiana | 28 | 38 | .424 | 23 1/2 |

| Southeast Division | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| x-Orlando | 47 | 17 | .734 | — |
| Atlanta | 37 | 28 | .569 | 10 1/2 |
| Miami | 35 | 29 | .547 | 12 |
| Charlotte | 28 | 36 | .438 | 19 |
| Washington | 15 | 50 | .231 | 32 1/2 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| Southwest Division | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|-------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| San Antonio | 43 | 20 | .683 | — |
| Houston | 42 | 24 | .636 | 2 1/2 |
| New Orleans | 40 | 23 | .635 | 3 |
| Dallas | 39 | 25 | .609 | 4 1/2 |
| Memphis | 16 | 47 | .254 | 27 |

| Northwest Division | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Portland | 40 | 23 | .635 | — |
| Utah | 41 | 24 | .631 | — |
| Denver | 41 | 25 | .621 | 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 19 | 45 | .297 | 21 1/2 |
| Oklahoma City | 18 | 47 | .277 | 23 |

| Pacific Division | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| LA Lakers | 51 | 13 | .797 | — |
| Phoenix | 34 | 30 | .531 | 17 |
| Golden State | 21 | 42 | .333 | 29 1/2 |
| LA Clippers | 15 | 49 | .234 | 36 |
| Sacramento | 14 | 50 | .219 | 37 |

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

BUDWEISER CAGING STANDINGS

| | W | L |
|----------------------|---|---|
| CNMI Nationals | 8 | 2 |
| IT & E | 7 | 4 |
| Ol'Aces | 6 | 4 |
| Diamond Auto Fixers | 5 | 5 |
| Quichocho Law Office | 5 | 7 |
| Docomo | 4 | 6 |
| Runnin' Rebels | 2 | 9 |

Ol'Aces take down Patriots, seize lead

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER



Ol'Aces seized the solo lead in the Juniors Division of the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball Association after shocking powerhouse Patriots, 7-3, last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Pitcher Lamar Iguel went 4-for-4, including a solo homerun in the top of the fourth, to lead Ol'Aces to its fourth win in a row (4-0).

Ol'Aces is now half a game ahead of the previously undefeated Patriots, who fell to second with a 4-1 win-loss card.

In all, Iguel allowed 10 hits and three runs, while striking out three batters. He made his four runs in the first, fourth, fifth, and seventh innings, in one of the best individual offensive performances of the young season.

The team's other runs came from

Patriots pitcher Jeremy Rabauliman swings the bat in this file photo. Patriots lost to the Ol'Aces last Saturday in the Juniors Division of the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball Association.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.



Docomo beats Bad Boyz in Obyan

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Docomo Pacific Hustlers rolled to their second straight win to grab solo second in the Obyan Division of the Budweiser 8-Ball League.

The Hustlers outsmarted Billy Bones Bad Boyz, 5-2, last March 3 to duplicate their first win of the season against their corporate rivals IT&E Voyagers last Feb. 24.

They are now in solo second place with a 10-4 record.

Erwin Gomez, Jerry Soriano, Senen Pangelinan, and Joemer Enriquez won over their rivals in the singles.

The lone Hustler who fell on the wayside was Robert Sanciango, who failed to sustain a 1-0 lead and was ambushed by Joe Villagomez.

Bad Boyz's Diamond Aldan and Dexter Mendiola also won in the first doubles match against the pair of Joey

Lucido and Sanciango.

But Gomez and Enriquez teamed up to win against Sam Babauta and Joe Villagomez in the second doubles for the Hustlers' big win that put the Hustlers in second place behind Utopia Mixed Acers (10-4).

Mixed Acers (6-1) are on top due to their higher 85.7 winning percentage after seven games. They were on a bye in the second playing date. The Hustlers have a 71.4 winning percentage after 14 matches.

Home Boys 5, Wild Wild West 2

Billy Bones Home Boys also hammered out a 5-2 victory over Wild Wild West to climb to third place with an 8-6 slate. They have a 51.7 winning percentage after 14 matches.

Mario Diola, Juancho Sanchez, Tata Billones, and Jorge Lizardo gave the Home Boys a 4-0 lead by disposing separate opponents in the first four singles matches.

Wild Wild West scored its lone win

in the singles courtesy of Jess Guerra, who swept Bill Mott.

Guerra paired with Noi Blake in another win over Home Boys tandem of Mendoza and Nelson Pagaduan in the first doubles.

Nolan Cultura and Franz De Luna won in the second doubles to complete the Home Boys' first win of the season after its 3-4 defeat to sister team Bad Boyz on opening day.

IT&E 5, Snicker 2

In the other game, IT&E Voyagers booked their first win after beating Snicker 8 Ball Knights, 5-2, and moved from fifth to fourth.

The Voyagers lost to Docomo Hustlers, 2-5, on opening day.

Rolly Villanueva, Jean Cadag, Luis Fajardo, and R.J. Mascarinas won in the singles then Villanueva and Roman Rodriguez triumphed in the first doubles.

Knights' Larry Briones swept Rodriguez in singles then teamed up with Marvin Mendoza to beat Mascarinas and Fajardo in the second doubles.

Oscar Sablan.

However, Wat-Ever won the last four matches with victories by Nolas Kaliga and Gus Taitano in the singles over Steve Limes and John Peter.

Then Kaliga and Joe Shokang defeated Sablan and Nizer Masayos in the first doubles and Kileleman and Taitano paired to win the second doubles match over the tandem of Tebuteb and Sablan.

Shark Attack 4, Fotten Palau 3

Shark Attack escaped with a 4-3 win against USS Fotten Palau.

Patrick Taitano and Bill Limes sealed the win by toppling John Mon-

Phillip Litulumar in the fourth, Jacob Flores in the fifth, and Jake Santos in the seventh.

Red Sox 10, Fielders 0

The Red Sox blanked Fielders, 10-0, for only their second win in five outings.

Clayton Aguon issued 10 strikeouts in completing a no-hitter. He allowed only two walks.

Joseph Borja and Tommy Reyes scored the first two runs for the Red Sox in the top of the second inning. Thomas Reyes added one in the third, while Reyes and A.J. Lizama tucked in two more in the fourth. The team then added five more runs for good measure in the fifth.

The Fielders absorbed their fifth defeat in as many games.

Mulligans for sale in San Jose golf tomorrow



Organizers of the Inaugural San Jose Church Fundraising Golf Tournament will allow mulligans during the competition set tomorrow at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talafofo.

Coordinators Manny Mangarero and Jess Wabol said the mulligans will be sold at \$5 a pop and each player can avail a maximum of two unrestricted mulligans.

A mulligan is a retaken swing, usually due to a previously errant one. Mulligans are strictly prohibited in the official rules of the game, but are commonplace in social golf.

Wabol also reminded members of the Refaluwasch Golf Association that the San Jose golf tourney will also serve as the club's March qualifier.

Earlier Mangarero said they are staging the San Jose Church Fundraising Golf Tournament to raise funds for the much needed repairs of the San Jose Church. Tee time is set at 7:30am with check in time an hour earlier at 6:30am.

Entry fee is \$100 and will give participants a chance to vie for the top prizes in two divisions—low gross and low net double peoria.

Low gross will have both men's and women's categories. First place nets \$300, second \$200, and third \$100.

The low net double peoria is co-ed and will award \$300 for first place, \$250 for second, and \$150 for third.

Organizers will also set up closest to the pin competition in holes No. 8, 12, and 15. Five prizes will also be up for grabs in skills challenge in hole No. 6.

Mangarero added that the San Jose Church Fundraising Golf Tournament will feature a hole-in-one challenge with still an undisclosed prize.

The awards banquet for the tournament will be held immediately after the competition at the grounds of Kingfisher Golf Links. Mangarero said those paying via check should make them payable to San Jose Parish.

For more information, call Mangarero at 235-2609 or 878-4499, Rev. Fr. Jesse Reyes at 234-6991 or 483-PALE, Jess Wabol at 233-3673, or Jerry Ayuyu at 286-1400. (PR)



MARK RABAGO

Coordinators Jess Wabol, left, and Manny Mangarero said they expect 60-80 golfers to take part in tomorrow's Inaugural San Jose Church Fundraising Golf Tournament.

Huwa keeps lead with win over 8 Ballers

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

D'Pirates Huwa outplayed sister team D'Pirates 8 Ballers, 6-1, last March 3 to keep the solo lead in the Agin-gan Division of the Budweiser Open 8-Ball League.

Jesse Pangelinan, Ray Basa, Tero Takai, and Ray Takai won against their respective opponents in the singles before Gerald Guerrero lost his match to Simeon Kapileo.

Pangelinan and Ray Takai teamed up to beat Kapileo and Perry Inos in the doubles.

Basa and Guerrero also prevailed in the other doubles match against Edward Suzuki and Lino Tenorio that gave Huwa an 11-3 win-loss record on top of the division standings.

Wat-Ever 6, Da Snipers 1

USSP Wat-Ever also coasted to an easy 6-1 win against BwiiBwi's Da Snipers to join BwiiBwi's Shark Attack in second place.

Wat-Ever and Shark Attack are now tied with their 9-5 win-loss cards.

Bill Kaipat and Kun Kainoa posted wins over Leo Sablan and Tom Tebuteb but Mike Kileleman lost to

gami and Ron Chisato in the second doubles that broke a 3-3 deadlock.

Fotten Palau's Taylor Watanabe swept Shark Attack's Bernard Kileleman in the first singles, but Patrick Taitano tied the count with a win over John Mongami.

Shark Attack took the lead anew with a win by Rick Rengiil, who recovered from a 0-1 deficit in the first frame to eke out a 2-1 decision over Bill Limes.

Ben Norita and Dan Eugenio gave Shark Attack a 3-2 lead with wins over Stan Villagomez and Ron Chisato, respectively, in the last two singles.

Taylor Watanabe and Rick Rengiil defeated Kileleman and Norita to tie

the score at 3-all.

Perfect Spotters 5, Warriors 2

Monte Carlo Perfect Spotters nailed a 5-2 victory over the VFW Warriors to bounce back from their 2-5 loss to Shark Attack last Feb. 24.

Bradley Demapan, Lino Ibis, Serge Tibudan, and James Wabinga won over their respective foes in the singles, which more than made up for the loss of Joyen Mejia to Dean Borja.

Demapan and Ed Gabito stepped in the first doubles and gave the Perfect Spotters a 5-1 lead before Tibudan and Wabinga lost to Fred Camacho and his partner in the second doubles.



Ol'Aces take down Patriots, seize lead

Ol'Aces seized the solo lead in the Juniors Division of the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball Association after shocking powerhouse Patriots, 7-3, last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

35

Saipan Tribune Sports

Venezuela beats US to win Group C

Henry Blanco homered and made a key throw in the ninth inning as Venezuela beat the United States 5-3 on Wednesday night to win Group C at the World Baseball Classic.

32



36 FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2009

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kensuke, Kaito reset age group records

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Two Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan swimmers shattered age group records during the 2009 Saipan Swim Club International Invitational Meet held over the weekend at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.



Kensuke Kimura competed in the open division, but his time of 5:35.70 seconds in the 400m individual medley eclipsed the boys' 11-12 age group record.

Kimura crushed the five-year mark of previous record-holder Rezne Wong, who timed in at 5:51.18 on April 4, 2004.

Tsunami Saipan coach and Kensuke's father, Hiro, said his son's

See KENSUKE on Page 34



Some members of Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan pose with their medals and plaques during the awards ceremony for the SSC International Invitational Swim Meet Sunday at Saipan World Resort.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Diamond shines, Quichocho upsets Ol'Aces

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Diamond Auto Care and Quichocho Law Office showed poise in the fourth quarter to outclass separate foes in the 2008-

Diamond Auto Fixers' Jawn Joyner goes up for a layup against two Ol'Aces defenders during their game in the Budweiser caging Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

2009 BANMI/Budweiser Basketball League Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Diamond dropped a 14-4 bomb in more than five minutes in the fourth quarter to thwart the Runnin' Rebels, 81-74, in the second game. In the curtain raiser, Quichocho outgunned the Ol'Aces in the stretch to nail a 91-82 triumph.

The Runnin' Rebels were still ahead by a hair, 65-64, with

6:18 left in the fourth quarter, when Diamond worked its way back into the game.

Elmer Esdrelon, Errol Peredo and Dick Brostrom scored in succession, while Jawn Joyner drilled four straight points to give Diamond a 75-65 lead, with 3:45 left in the game.

Jose Tumaquip broke the Runnin' Rebels' silence with a long jumper, but Errol Peredo

countered with a triple to keep Diamond's double digit lead, 78-67, going into the last three minutes of the match.

The Runnin' Rebels scored one more basket on a Sylvan Teregeyo layup, but went cold again for more than a minute before Bob Coldeen Jr. canned a triple, with 36 seconds of the game and with Diamond safely ahead, 80-72.

Esdrelon scored 17 points for Diamond, which improved to a

See DIAMOND on Page 34

'The Shreddar' to see action in Art of War III

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Guam's Luis "The Shreddar" Blanco will be featured in the superfights for The Art of War III Grappling/Submissions Challenge tomorrow, March 14, at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa.

Blanco will be flexing his muscles against three experienced mixed martial arts fighter that include Baby Joe



"The Juggernaut" Taimanglo of Guam, Cuki Alvarez of Saipan, and Justin "The Shocker" Cruz of Guam.

The fourth bout in the super-fights will be between Tetsuji Kato of Japan and Terence "T-Rex" Aflague of Guam.

Blanco is a jujitsu specialist from Guam.

Taimanglo is the PXC light-weight MMA champion, who served as referee during Rites of Passage VI at the Saipan World Resort last Jan. 25.

Alfaque is a brown belt while Kato is a Trench Tech instructor.

Alvarez, Trench Tech Inc. president and promoter, said interested fighters would be accepted only until today, March 13, with an entry fee of \$20.

Competitors will receive a T-shirt upon registration.

Medals will be awarded to the Top 3 finishers in each category.

See THE SHREDDAR on Page 34

Plenty Cups

One Cup down. One Cup to go. The Marianas Cup concluded last weekend. The Marianas Cup starts this week.

Here's one way to look at: we are so blessed, we have not one Marianas Cup, but two Marianas Cups.

Actually we have three. The Marianas Kids Cup is this Sunday. What in the wide world of sports is going on?

The original Marianas Cup started 17 years ago as a beach volleyball tournament and continued with spectacular play last weekend at Pacific Islands Club. Obviously the volleyball folks did not copyright or trademark their tournament name.

When the Saipan and Guam soccer organizations decided to field national teams in pursuit of the Marianas championship, they decided to go with a traditional soccer honor (who hasn't fallen in love with the UEFA Cup? the World Cup? the CONCACAF Gold Cup?) in bestowing a Cup to the winner.

The CNMI women's soccer team will play Guam tomorrow for the Marianas Cup, not to be confused with the one taken to Japan

by Chie Iwana and Yoko Miki for winning the beach volleyball tournament last weekend.

Imagine someone calling up Chie and Yoko and telling them to return the Cup, "Hey, we need the Marianas Cup back for the winning women's soccer team!"

Since the beach volleyball tournament has been around far longer than soccer, perhaps Marianas footballers could take advantage of the new times and rename their award. I suggest "Trench Cup".

Aligning ourselves with the Marianas Trench opens all kinds of exciting opportunities e.g. designing a new logo. I'd go with a soccer ball over a 36,000-foot deep crevice surrounded by sharks.

What troubles me most is that the Marianas Cup beach tourney does not actually award a cup; it's a regular ole trophy just like the dusty ones that dominate my living room. Yes, sports fans, the Marianas Cup is not really a cup. Go figure.

I always thought a cup is a cup is a cup. Now I know better.

Indeed, a Cup is different than a cup. To me, an old baseball guy, cup means two things: 1) the thing that holds coffee; and 2) the thing that protects a catcher's nuts.

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2



Soccer awards Cups. Football has Bowls. To me, that makes perfect sense. Bowls are bigger than cups.

Baseball and basketball give classical championship trophies. Tennis has the Davis Cup, which ostensibly can hold a lot of tennis balls. Hockey has Mr. Stanley Cup which in reality is nothing more than a tall bowl.

I think it would be appropriate if organizers of the Marianas Kids Cup beach volleyball tournament give cupcakes as prizes. Sweet. Of course, first place cup cakes would have more toppings than second place. And let's call them Cup Cakes.